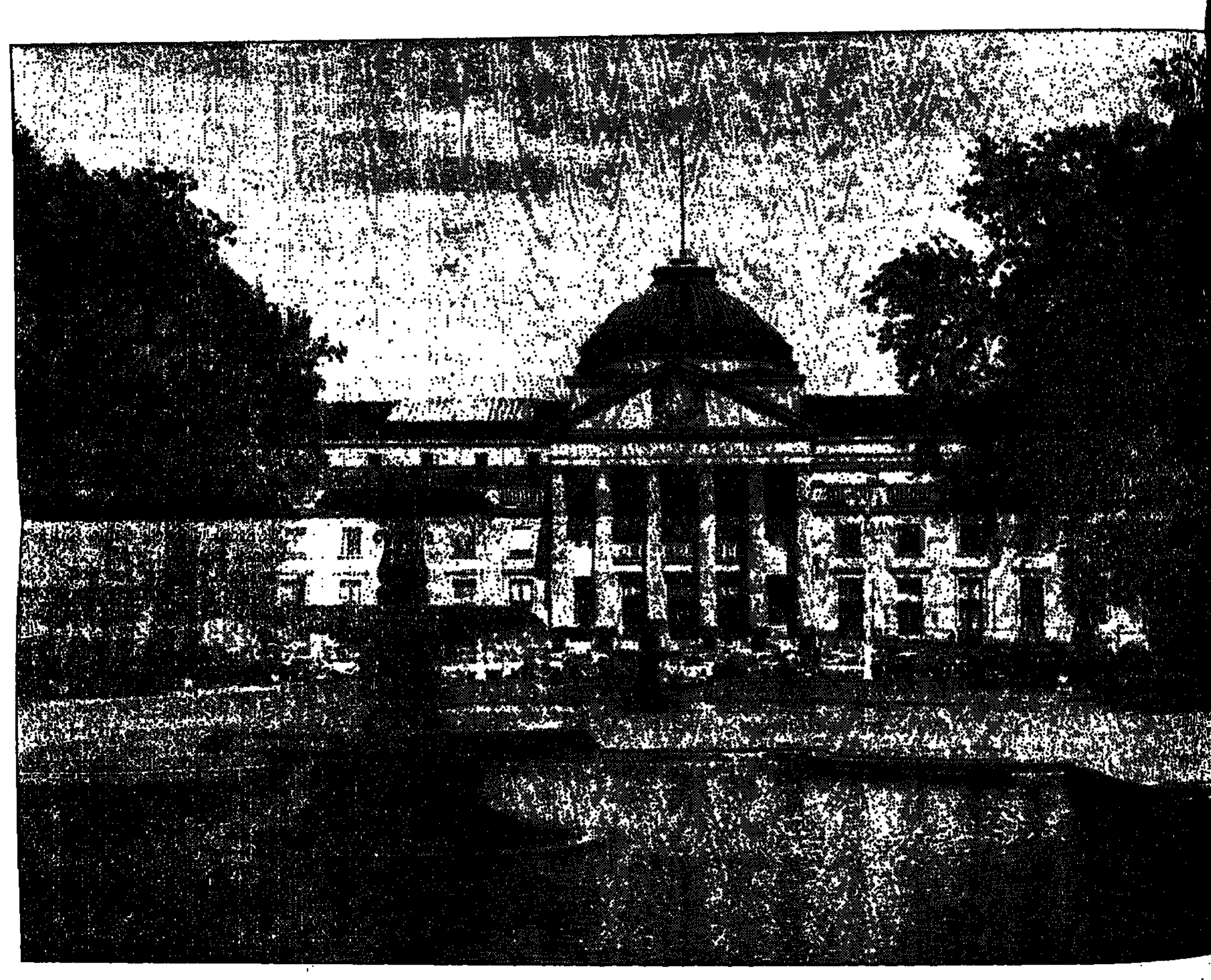
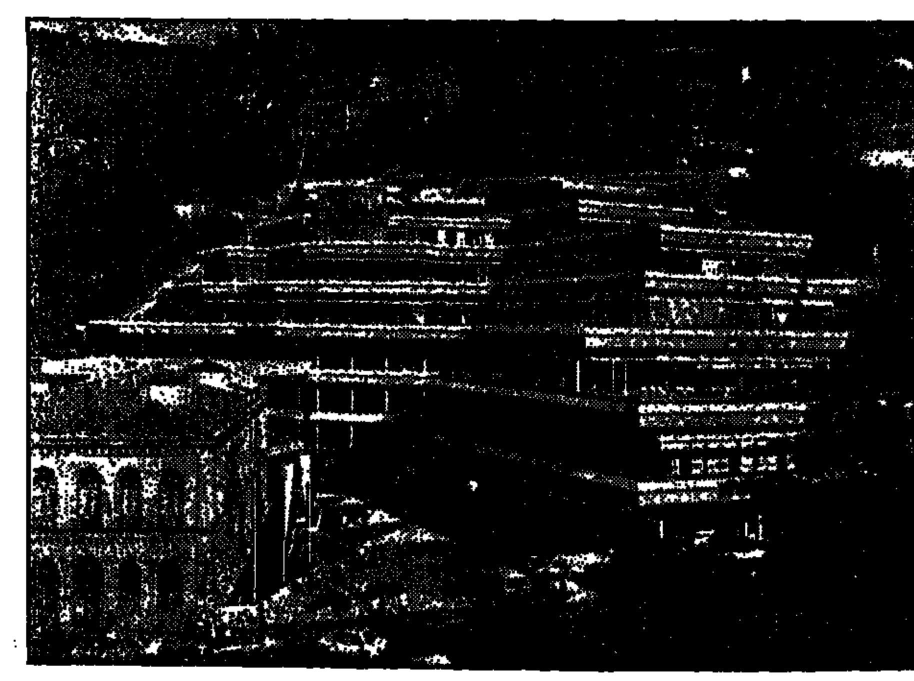
German Spas

Mark Twain, Bismarck, the Tsar of Russia, Ibn Saud, General Eisenhower, Charles de Gaulle, Ted Miller from Kansas City, Frederic the Great and the Hunchback – what do they all have in common? They and many others visited the spas and health resorts of Germany. From the year dot onwards through the present and especially in the future, Germany is the country of thermal baths, springs, healthy climates, world famous spas. From the seaside to the forests of Southern Germany there are more than 300 of them. They are traditional and modern at the same time. Take Wildbad in the Black Forest with its ultra-modern thermal baths or Wiesbaden with the Royal Pump Room, or Bad Baden with the elegant casino; but we mustn't forget Bad Homburg and the Imperial City Aachen which has the warmest springs in Central Europe. Brochures on Germany the Spa Country and its many natural treatments are available.





Wiesbaden

Wildbad

The German Tribune

mburg, 19 July 1981
entieth Year - No. 997 - By air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C
ISSN 0016-8858

Home and abroad, it's time to take stock

This summer promises to be a tough one both at home and abroad for n. At Federal, state and local go- nment level the cupboards are bare, none but fools would deny. And for- n affairs are characterised by danger- s uncertainties.

We have yet to come to terms with new men in the White House and Elysée Palace, conservative Ronald agan and socialist Francois Mitterrand, o romped home by a surprisingly de margin.

The two new presidents have set emselves ambitious domestic policy gets, so both have yet to find their t on foreign policy.

They are both taking their time, more e than can be to Bonn's liking. nn may appreciate the situation but e uncertainty is not proving conducive holiday spirit on the Rhine.

The crisis in Poland and the smoulde- g fires in the Near and Middle East e made the summer recess less fun n usual too.

So it was all the more gratifying that Mitterrand brought forward the Oc- ber Franco-German summit to a week fore the Western economic summit in ttawa.

He and his German hosts settled wn to a thorough exchange of views. ere were many questions to answer in

IN THIS ISSUE

e next edition of THE GERMAN IBUNE will appear on 2 August 1981

e wake of the transfer of power in ris.

Chancellor Schmidt and President itterrand had already met in Paris on May and at the Luxembourg EEC mmit at the end of June, but these ncounters were by no means enough.

M. Mitterrand in Bonn was not ac- companied by his four Communist Min- sters. He wanted to spare the nerves of is German hosts, who had naturally een shocked by his appointment of Communists to the French Cabinet ithout a pressing need to do so.

Herr Schmidt did not pester his guest n this. He has great confidence in M. itterrand, who had already clarified a umber of fears voiced about Commu- ist participation in the government.

They related in particular to French security policy. M. Mitterrand has uncompromisingly come out in favour of missile modernisation by the West.

The situation as he reads it is that the balance of power in Europe is deeply disturbed by Russia's SS-20 missiles and Backfire bombers.

He has been equally forthright in his declaration of intent to perfect France's deterrent potential and to counteract any tendency towards neutralism, peace depending on a balance of power.

President Mitterrand, Chancellor Schmidt and Foreign Minister Genscher agree on this point. France and Germany are felt in Bonn to largely agree in their assessment of the East-West situation.

But unresolved issues do arise in connection with, for instance, the Helsinki review conference in Madrid. Bonn was keen to to learn how Paris saw the future of this long drawn-out conference.

Queries also arose in connection with the Vienna MBFR talks on troop cuts in Central Europe. President Giscard d'Estaing had decided misgivings about them because he felt their geographical limitation was wrong.

The real problems arise, however, within the Common Market: in connection with EEC budgetary policies and the irksome issue of Common Agricultural Policy reform.

These were topics towards which the Bonn summit was unable to contribute much of a solution. They were not to be dealt with in detail until the London EEC summit in November.

The Chancellor and his Ministers listened attentively as M. Mitterrand explained how he intended financing the 35-hour working week and whether he proposed to suggest the idea to other members of the EEC. Herr Schmidt had no intention of spoiling the feeling France has of getting off to a fresh start, but he had already noted, with an undertone of doubt, that "if all costs money." Bonn cannot be unconcerned by the economic and social policies pursued by Paris, its partner in the 1963 friendship pact; France is Germany's foremost trading partner. The personal intimacy of ties between the French and German leaders

Continued on page 2



Mitterrand and Schmidt in Bonn...thorough exchange of views. (Photo: Poly-Press)

Genscher gets along just fine in Bulgaria

Foreign Ministers Hans-Dietrich Genscher of Germany and Petar Mladenoff of Bulgaria were both satisfied with the outcome of their three days of talks at a Black Sea holiday resort near Varna.

The two countries differed in principle on a number of political issues, such as missile modernisation in Europe and the future of East-West ties, heightened in their uncertainty by the Polish crisis.

But the two governments aimed to cooperate more closely and to attach fresh and greater importance to mutual ties, as Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov had noted in Sofia.

Specific agreement was reached on the two Foreign Ministers holding more frequent informal meetings, on consultations between their disarmament negotiators and a meeting soon in Bonn between the political directors of the two Foreign Ministries.

Trade ties too are to be boosted; Germany is Bulgaria's major trading partner in the West. Herr Genscher hopes progress will be made soon on an investment protection agreement.

It was, as Mr Zhivkov put it, a rapprochement between what was possibly the third most important country in the world and a small Soviet satellite.

Both Communists and non-Communists in Bulgaria retain feelings of traditional friendship with Germany, while the Bulgarian leader proved a particularly attentive host.

He was well briefed on domestic affairs in Bonn and cracked jokes about Herr Genscher's key role in the interplay of forces between the coalition and the Opposition.

On the evening of the first day of Herr Genscher's visit it looked for a while as though the cordial atmosphere would be clouded by his plain speaking on Soviet overarming with "medium-range missiles and on Moscow's missile moratorium proposals.

A number of Bulgarian officials, accustomed to toeing the Moscow line, showed unmistakable signs of being upset. But this did not seem to be the case with the Bulgarian leaders.

Even after his after-dinner speech Herr Genscher found Foreign Minister Mladenoff and Party leader Zhivkov (who is held in particularly high esteem in the Kremlin) to be both confiding and even easy-going.

"No-one," Mr Zhivkov emphatically said, "can deny the existence of historical friendship between Germany and Bulgaria."

Bernt Conrad

(Die Welt, 11 June 1981)



Genscher and Bulgaria's Zhivkov in Sofia...an easy-going tête à tête. (Photo: dpa)

THE WESTERN ALLIANCE

Youth and its crucial role in the American connection

Young Germans tend to disregard facts because of their fondness for theorising; they do not go to political meetings and, despite claims to be interested in politics, do not read the news sections of daily papers.

This, at least, was the view of one delegate at a three-day debate at the Aspen Institute, in Berlin.

The subject of the debate was anti-Americanism, an issue of immediate relevance to the institute's objective of promoting debate between Americans and Europeans.

It emerged that part of Europe's anti-Americanism may be caused by differences of opinion between young and old, although the overall difficulty was much greater.

There were many participants at the meeting, including names testifying to the longevity of attempts to deal with the issue, such as John McCloy and Richard von Weizsäcker, and Americans whose attendance this time last year would have been altogether more significant.

They were all associated with the Carter administration; the Reagan administration and its advisers were not represented.

This was no coincidence. The reason was straightforward, although far from satisfactory from a European point of view. Despite campaign commitments the Reagan administration has yet clearly to outline many aspects of US policy.

In Washington it has taken to increasing caution since mid-March, being spotlighted by the media in a bid to work out differences of opinion between individual members of the administration.

The Reagan administration seems still to be wondering how best to deal with its foreign partners.

The Aspen Institute cannot, by any stretch of the imagination, be considered a US government mouthpiece, and this proved a great help in Berlin.

With Shepard Stone cordially chairing the debate a wide range of views were aired without discord during the three days of talks.

The Churches were represented. So were the Young Socialists and even the Dutch peace movement and the Swedes.

This was a far cry from previous Aspen Institute debates at which security issues were discussed by participants including representatives of the planning staff of the four powers (America, Britain, France and Gemany).

On these past occasions all concerned had been aware of increasing unanimity in the West. Not so this time.

Anti-Americanism is naturally a matter of the content and expression of cultural policy, of which Iran's Islamic revolution is a manifestation that calls for closer scrutiny.

In passing, mention was even made of alleged anti-Americanism on the part of Goethe, but this phenomenon, extremely interesting though it may have been in the context of intellectual history, was given short and superficial shrift.

This was due in part to the current position of intellectual history as a discipline, and the debate dealt promptly with young people as the crux of anti-Americanism.

There was no discussion of the fact that the rebellious younger generation often merely regurgitate views held, but set aside, by its elders.

Yet not even this suspicion is undeniably accurate, however. Today's youngsters, unlike the generation of '68, are no more intellectually active or aggressive in their anti-Americanism than they are in other respects.

They are de facto anti-American in their remoteness from reality and their withdrawal from achievement and responsibility.

They feel the superpowers' world system to be as boring as politics altogether, but protest against decisions by the Bonn government automatically tend to be anti-American by virtue of Germany's Nato membership and commitments.

German participants in the Aspen Institute debate seemed keen to use the concept of alienation, but can young people be said to have been alienated (and their elders be given thw blame) merely because some of them take part in the peace movement?

Such concepts and tenets were far from what American participants had in mind. Why were people so upset, one American asked, now that Americans were behaving like Americans again?

This query was also directed at a change noted by a European. During the Cold War, he said, Europe had been happy to be depedent on the United States; now it felt this dependence to be a burden.

Fear of the Soviet Union had increased while confidence in the power of the United States had declined. Dependence was thus felt to be so much more oppressive.

Some, like Chancellor Schmidt, accordingly felt the need for missile modernisation. Others, such as sections of the younger generation, felt there was a greater need for the exact opposite.

What, then, were the specific features of German anti-Americanism? German participants sought to relativise, saying it was a dialectical counterpart to German pro-Americanism.

Were pro-Americanism not so pronounced in Germany (nowhere outside the United States was the US bicentennial celebrated as enthusiastically as in the Federal Republic), anti-Americanism would not be so marked either.

It was merely a compensatory response and did not amount to a step in the direction of the Soviet Union. Left-wingers still preferred a university course in California to one at the Lumumba University in Moscow.

Anti-Americanism was thus in vart a rebellion against young people's parents. Opinion poll findings were used by various sides to back up a variety of assertions.

The reliability of polls was seen in a critical light, especially at a time when marginal groups and activists distort true proportions.

One participant delved deeper. Germany, he said, was today part of the West. But historically it had drifted away from the West to a certain extent since the Reformation.

This drift had been noted by, among others, Max Weber. As a result Germany's eastern neighbour Poland, due in part no doubt to its Roman Catholicism, was to some extent more Western than Germany.

The problem was that the Federal Republic, as the most Western German state there had yet been, was accused by younger critics in their quest for a German identity of being superficially Americanised.

Thus both sides posed more questions about young people than the descriptions of the young they formulated.

There was no refutation of suspicions that Europe was merely going through a phase through which America had already passed.

One American even suggested that there were demographic reasons for this time-lag. The US baby boom began earlier, ended earlier and its consequence, the university student boom, was graduating sooner.

Before long foreign students with suitable financial backing would be able to benefit from surplus capacity at US universities.

At the same time there has been a decline in the influence of ideology, notably that of Herbert Marcuse, on the other side of the Atlantic.

Scepticism is gaining ground, as is a widespread mistrust of all alleged economic, political and military compulsion. Job prospects are more important than theoretical controversies.

Mention was also made of a remarkable (and universal) lack of information among young people themselves, accompanied in Germany by a further difficulty.

Young Germans so preferred theorising that they tended to disregard facts. They did not attend political meetings and despite claiming to be interested in politics did not read the news sections of daily newspapers.

They preferred holding views to keeping abreast of the facts. They were sceptical about political processes in general and the conduct of international affairs in particular.

On more than one occasion an extremely distinguished American pointed out that young people were anything but the winners in the democratic process.

He reiterated his theory of the greying of America (in contrast to the greening America postulated in 1970 by fashionable philosopher Charles Reich).

The fastest-growing item of budget expenditure was pensions and care of the aged. Twenty-five per cent of the budget was spent on the over-60s.

In a country with poor election turnout such as the United States the proportional increase in the number of old people is increasingly important, especially as they tend to show more interest in elections.

US politics was thus growing more grey-haired, and literally so, said the democrats in Berlin.

That was certainly one of the rea... why Mr Reagan, the more charis... candidate, had won.

The conclusion reached was that ... ropean anti-Americanism was not ... substantial, merely a result of the ge... ration conflict on both sides of the ... lantic.

Difficulties of transatlantic commu... cation were also mentioned, howe... Self-critical Americans were not den... the impression that nothing could ... be set against the drift apart that ... been apparent for years.

Long-known facts such as the p... quality of foreign coverage in the U... States were not even mentioned, bu... predominance of domestic issue ... acknowledged to have grown ... stronger.

Europeans really must try and ... clearer idea of the democratic se... the United States where, intellectu... degree of isolation was setting in.

Even fewer students were kee... foreign languages, people seemed t... losing interest in the political ... of Western Europe, last year only ... PhD thesis was written on a We... European political topic.

Against this background it is no... difficult to surmise how readily the ... agan administration will be prepared ... comply with Bonn's desire for talks ... the Soviet Union to get under way.

US participants in Berlin certa... confirmed that some German expec... tions were illusory.

Differences of opinion between ... and young may thus account for pa... Europe's anti-Americanism, but ... overall difficulty is much greater.

It is that neither Americans nor ... ropeans hold views that can be reco... iled as readily as they once were. So... thing needs doing on both side... counteract the most dangerous reperc... sions of this state of affairs.

Scepticism about programmes may ... justified but something must, in th... long run, be done about the alarm... fact that major US foundations ha... gradually given up promoting interna... tional relations.

In Germany too, despite official p... testations to the contrary, much too ... tle is done in this respect, and a ... elite or sentimental ties are not enoug...

European politics is likewise tend... towards isolationism and concentra... on domestic issues, most clearly pe... in M. Mitterrand's France but also ... Germany.

There was something sombre ... hard to define at the back of the ... cheerful wit of this jumbo round t... at the Aspen Institute.

John McCloy, representing the ... generation, said there was a ... and he saw no end to it.

Robert Hel...

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zei... für Deutschland, 10 July 1...)

Continued from page 1

went by the board when M. Giscard d'Estaing lost at the polls.

But Bonn has no fears of major difficulties in mutual understanding, especially as Helmut Schmidt and Francois Mitterrand are firmly resolved to maintain close cooperation.

On European objectives Bonn already feels it is still of one mind with Paris. There can be no doubt that the continuity of ties since the days of Konrad Adenauer and Charles de Gaulle has proved well worth while.

Egbard Mörbitz

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 13 July 1981)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Reinecke. Editor-in-Chief: ... Heinz. Editor: Alexander Anthony. English ... sub-editor: Simon Burnett. – Distribution ... Georgine Picone.

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 23 Schoene Aussicht, Hamburg 76, Tel.: 22 85 1. Telex: 02-14733

Advertising rates list No. 13 –
Annual subscription DM 35.

Printed by Druck- und Verlagshaus Friedrich Pörtner, Bremen-Blumenthal. Distributed in the USA by ... MAILINGS, Inc. 540 West 24th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

All articles which THE GERMAN TRIBUNE reprints are published in cooperation with the editorial staffs of leading newspapers of the Federal Republic of Germany. They are complete translations of the original text, in no way abridged nor editorially redrafted.

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WORLD AFFAIRS

Bluff or not, Moscow's proposals to Brandt merit a good scrutiny

...s it an interesting offer for the West or ...ust another big bluff? Whatever ...s, the proposals Willy Brandt brought ...k from Moscow merit careful conside... ...on.

Disarmament is too serious an issue ...e dragged through the mire of party-... ...ical bickering.

...ere are two reasons why the out... ...e of Herr Brandt's talks will listened ...ith willing ears.

...e is because of the domestic debate ...efence taking place in Europe, and ... Kremlin doubtless had this in mind ...n it invited Herr Brandt.

The other is the possible repercus... ...s on ties with America, something ...the Kremlin is hoping to influence.

...s yet, however, the Soviet proposals ...only be given an initial assessment. ...e, for instance, the modified morato... ...m proposal.

Moscow, the former Bonn Chancellor ...d Nobel peace laureate says, is prepar... ...to "do nothing more in respect of ... SS-20" from the moment negotia... ...ns on medium-range nuclear missiles ... Europe begin.

The Soviet Union is prepared to call ... SS-20 deployment programme to a ...lt provided the United States gives an ...surance that it too will "do nothing to ...ep up wthe nuclear potential envi... ...ged."

This undoubtedly means forgoing all ...itions over the manufacture and ...aration for stationing of medium-range US missiles, but otherwise it makes little sense.

Does it, for instance, mean any further increase on the 572 US missiles that are to be deployed in Europe from the end of 1983?

It must be taken to refer either solely to Nato's proposed missile modernisation programme or to the West's entire nuclear potential in Europe, one or other of which is to be brought to a halt.

The former would undoubtedly be a considerable step forward, but the Soviet Union has so far insisted that even a moratorium freezing its current stockpile of SS-20s, SS-4s and SS-5s must be accompanied by more than a moratorium on missile modernisation by the West.

In return the West must freeze all weapons systems viewed by Moscow as forward-based. So the latter must be assumed to be the case until such time as evidence to the contrary is forthcoming.

On 2 April Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko told his Bonn opposite number, Herr Genscher, in detail that while talks were being held there must be neither exchange nor modernisation of forward-based systems.

Replacement of land- or sea-based American F 4, A 6, A 7, F 111 and FB 111 nuclear bombers was only to be allowed in respect of defective units.

In other words, while Moscow would be entitled to continue reinforcing and modernising its combat aircraft with penetration capacities of more than 600km, the West would have to stick to its largely outdated systems.

It would naturally be splendid if the Soviet Union were to have abandoned this unrealistic position.

Yet even if this were the case the United States would still, at least during the negotiations, have to accept a powerful preponderance of Soviet SS-20 missiles.

By this autumn, when talks might be expected to start, the number of SS-20s deployed is likely to have reached 250, with a single or double payload of three warheads each.

So at least 750, and possibly 1,500 warheads would by then be deployed, two thirds of them aimed at European targets, and this figure does not include the 400-odd SS-4s and SS-5s.

What Herr Brandt had to say about Soviet observations on the zero option was far from uninteresting.

The terms here envisaged are that the West, in return for the complete dismantling of all Soviet SS-20s, agrees to forgo the missile modernisation on Eurostrategic weapons.

"Assuming we were prepared to scrap our missiles," Herr Brandt's hosts said, "you could expect us to aim at a more comprehensive zero solution including more than just the new medium-range missiles."

Herr Brandt referred as an example to the Pershing I rocket, a short-range missile Moscow has yet to mention.

If the West were not to show willing to make an offer in this context, comparable Soviet missiles would then be built.

Does Mr Brezhnev then envisage a comprehensive nuclear disarmament in Europe excluding only tactical nuclear weapons? The West could certainly not dispense with these for as long as the Warsaw Pact maintained its considerable conventional superiority.

This appears to be the first time there has been any mention of including Soviet missile systems comparable with American forward-based systems.

Since Moscow at the same, more realistically than hitherto, refers to two-stage negotiations as previously proposed by Nato, this point merits careful consideration by the United States.

There is little to be gained by insinuating any difference of opinion between Herr Brandt and the Bonn government.

The Bonn Foreign Office says he energetically advocated all the West's views.

What is more, he was given a range of information by the Kremlin the exact value of which can only be sounded in medium-range missile talks between America and Russia.

A number of issues might have been dealt with more satisfactorily if he had been accompanied by a disarmament expert.

Where he can be faulted, however, is on the undue publicity that was given to his talks and their outcome before Bonn and its allies were briefed and had time to assess them.

Herr Brandt doubtless had in mind the complicated situation in his Social Democratic Party, but it would be more complicated, not less so, if Washington were to arrive at a negative assessment and disavow his bid to make headway on disarmament.

Wolf J. Bell

(General-Anzeiger, 7 July 1981)

Bonn tries again to break the East-West ice

The visit of Willy Brandt to Moscow invites comparisons ...h the situation when Chan... ...r Schmidt and Foreign Minis... Genscher flew there in the wake of ... Afghanistan shock. Schmidt and ...scher were then seeking to clarify ...ters and overcome the impending ...echlessness between East and West.

Their bid to talk with the Kremlin ...s discussed with and endorsed by ...n's allies in Europe and overseas be... ...hand.

But they set out for the Soviet capital ...companied by polite scepticism rather ...n enthusiastic approval over the benefits their talks were expected to bring.

Both felt their mission had been use... ... Herr Genscher then flew straight to ...ted States to brief the Carter admi... ...tration.

Mr Brezhnev, he said, had indirectly ...sed to negotiate on medium-range ...siles. Washington was unimpressed.

As for Afghanistan, the root cause of ... far-reaching crisis in confidence be... ...een Moscow and Washington, Herr ...hmidt had made no headway whatever ...th Mr Brezhnev.

The Chancellor might have been seri... ...s and unambiguous in what he had to ... to the Soviet leader but Mr Brezhnev ...d obviously been unimpressed.

This came as no surprise. Herr ...hmidt and Herr Genscher were by no ...ans the first Western politicians to ... Mr Brezhnev what a bad impression ...e Soviet occupation of Afghanistan ...d made on Nato.

A unanimously devasting view of this ...e of force by the Eastern superpower ...s taken by the United States, the Eu... ...peans, the Islamic states and an over... ...whelming majority at the UN.

Had Herr Schmidt's visit to Moscow accomplished anything or not? In retrospect it looks as through its sole significance lay in its having testified to the West's readiness to talk.

What was more, the West was prepared to talk at a time when the other side's *faits accomplls* had made the holding of promising talks at government, let alone summit, level seem out of the question.

The two sides nonetheless remained on speaking terms. More was not possible.

The situation is somewhat similar in the wake of the latest Bonn bid to break the ice, which especially after the change-over at the White House has grown so thick as to threaten to put paid altogether to East-West ties.

De facto there has been no change in the situation between Herr Schmidt's visit and Brandt's visit to the Kremlin.

The Soviet Union is still pressing ahead with the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles that are a threat to Western Europe to which Nato as yet has no answer.

This led to the Nato resolution on missile modernisation, while more than 800,000 Soviet troops are still committed in Afghanistan.

Like Herr Schmidt, Willy Brandt said the main reason for his fact-finding visit to the Soviet leader was an urgent desire, in the interest of peace, not to allow talks to break off altogether.

He wanted to impress on Moscow at the highest level how worried the West was and to find out without diplomatic detours how Mr Brezhnev envisaged the future of East-West ties.

In a manner reminiscent of the treatment Helmut Schmidt was given, the Soviet leaders did not oblige Herr Brandt to return empty-handed.

Mind you, the West must now decide whether the Soviet variations on Mr Brezhnev's missile moratorium are indeed a step forward by the Kremlin or merely mutton dressed up as lamb.

By and large, Nato experts in Brussels tend to view the latest Soviet proposals sceptically and with detachment. The Americans too are showing scant dismissed Herr Brandt's mission as a mere sideshow.

President Mitterrand of France seems totally unimpressed. Even Chancellor Schmidt and Foreign Minister Genscher, who themselves visited Moscow two years ago, left little doubt that Herr Brandt's visit to Moscow was of little importance for Bonn government policies.

Bonn government spokesman Kurt Becker hit on a turn of phrase of well-nigh classical diplomacy in cordially, politely commenting in a non-committal manner on the SPD leader's Moscow visit.

"The Moscow talks," he said, "were particularly important for shedding light on the political landscape in which arms control negotiations on Eurostrategic weapons are to take place.

"The made it clear that the Federal Republic and the political forces that govern it, well aware of their importance as a stable partner in the Nato alliance, will actively look after German interests at the interface between the two blocs."

In a nutshell, and put much more bluntly, all this means is that as far as Bonn is concerned Herr Brandt's trip notched up nothing more than expenses.

German endeavours, both by the govemmant and by the SPD, to put paid to the dangerous war of nerves between the superpowers do Germany credit.

But they have failed so far to get Americans and Russians back to the conference table because, naturally enough, they were unable to change the actual political situation.

There is little point in sounding out possibilities of minor shifts in emphasis in Washington and Moscow. Both are well aware of the ominous nature of the situation.

Yet both are evidently at present not unduly interested in getting together at the conference table.

Neither side can be expected to realign its position as long as not even talks about talks of compromise between diverging viewpoints.

If anything is to happen, and it is high time something did, the initiative must be taken by Washington and Moscow.

It may be more to the point to bring influence to bear on the White House, Bonn's ally, than to sound out the lie of the land in the Kremlin and to worry about interpreting cryptic messages.

Erhard Englisch

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 9 July 1981)

■ SOCIAL SECURITY

Pensions system 'needs to be overhauled'

DIE WELT

The German old-age pension system needs overhauling because not enough money is going in and too much is being taken out.

Professor Helmut Meinhold, president of the Social Advisory Council, which has produced a report on the state of the pension system, says that the burden on the workforce is constantly growing.

Two reasons are that people are drawing pensions earlier and are living longer. Also, Bonn is reducing its subsidies to the system; and there are long-term concerns that the birth rate is too low.

Professor Meinhold says the rate of pension increases is too high.

Since 1957, retirement benefits have been linked to the gross wage level. This meant that pensions increased during the 1970s at about 10 per cent a year compare with the inflation rate of about 3 per cent.

The council says that whatever percentage is deducted from the increase in working wage to cover pension increases should be deducted from the pension increase itself.

This should ensure that wages and pensions actually do rise at the same rate instead of what happens now. Pensions are based on the gross wage and have few deductions.

The council says that pensions should be more heavily taxed. Today, annual pensions amounting to DM48,000 are practically exempt from income tax.

The council would like to reduce this and other tax-free allowances so that pensions are gradually subjected to more tax.

It suggests that this should be done comparatively painlessly. Pensions would not drop in absolute terms but would merely increase at a slower rate.

These measures, the council suggests, could be flanked by an increased Bonn government subsidy of the pension insurances.

Up to now Bonn has steadily reduced this subsidy, but Meinhold says it should increase them to cover the increase in pension expenditure.

At times when the state's coffers were empty, it would be fairer to increase value added tax he said.

The council recommended that their reforms should be implemented with the reform of the surviving dependant's pension scheme in 1984.

It warned against making any decisions on a new scheme of joint pensions for husbands and wives or for child-rearing to count as reckonable before precise calculations had been made.

They said that there were already signs that these proposals would improve extra burdens on the scheme.

The council warned that many of the pension reforms now being discussed were simply not feasible financially.

The future of the pensions system depends not only on the birth rate but also on the economy.

The answer is steady economic growth

By the turn of the century, there would be an extremely unfavourable relation between the number of pensioners and the active working population — a problem which could only be solved by steady economic growth.

Meinhold said that if this growth did not occur there would be severe financial problems.

The council also recommended that the government should solve the problem of a minimum old age pension, take up the question of pensions for women again and harmonise the system generally.

The council was concerned to achieve parallelism not only between company and state pensions but to cut excessively generous pensions in the public service.

The employers described the report as a useful contribution. They welcomed the financial warnings it contained but said they doubted whether the proposals would succeed in achieving the desired balance between the income of the working population and that of pensioners.

Peter Gillies

(Die Welt, 4 July 1981)

Plan for early retirement

Women have now been included in an early retirement scheme in the tobacco industry.

An agreement between the cigarette companies and the food and catering workers' union (NGG) extends the arrangement to women and handicapped workers.

The scheme, which has applied to men since 1978, also includes short-time work.

There are 17,200 workers in the tobacco industry, 40 per cent of them women.

All are employed in a small number of non wage-intensive companies.

The choice means that certain workers will be able to choose between working 20 hours a week on full pay or giving up completely on 75 per cent pay.

The scheme has been welcomed by unions, employers and politicians.

Only workers with the firms for a minimum of 15 years will benefit. The previous limit was ten years.

The Hamburg-based Cigarette Industry Employers Association described the new system as "fairer and socially more sensible" and said that it could potentially reduce costs.

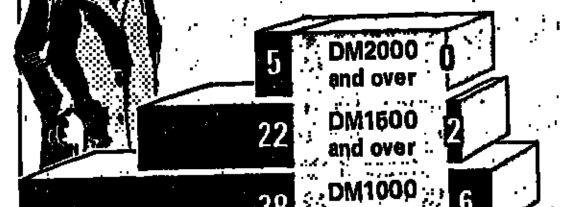
The reason for this is that with increasing automation the number of women workers is decreasing and that after a certain transitional period men would only be able to benefit from the scheme for two years before official retirement.

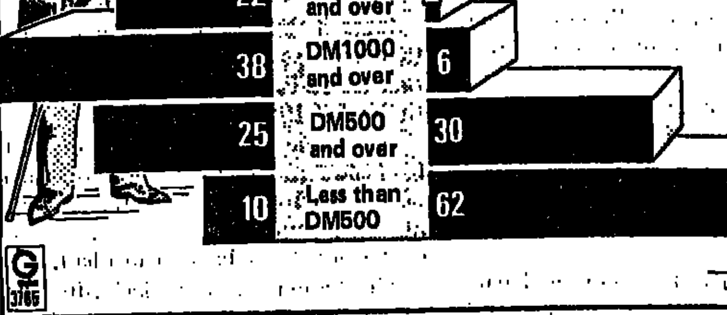
According to the Reemtsma company which is based in Hamburg, 90 out of a total work force of about 5,400 benefited from the scheme.

A company spokesman said that 45 men and 41 women would probably take advantage of the latest arrangement. This would mean a two to three per cent rise in wage costs.

dpa

(Rheinische Post, 7 July 1981)





Sharp increase in older people out of work

More than 80,000 people aged 59 or more are out of work in the Federal Republic of Germany. This is 27 per cent higher than a year ago.

One reason for the increase is the number of people retiring early under an unofficial scheme called Trick 59, though which companies lay off workers before they are 65.

The main criticism is that the bill has to be paid by the Federal Labour Office, which pays the workers unemployment benefit until until old-age pension is payable. It is also an abuse of the state pension scheme.

The regulation that 60-year-olds can draw their old age pension if they have been out of work for at least one year in the previous one and a half was introduced for social reasons in 1957. The purpose was to prevent these people being unemployed for several years.

This pension can only be drawn if the 60-year-old has completed a so-called waiting period of 180 months of contributions (with war service, imprisonment, persecution by the Nazis and time as a refugee taken into account).

Female applicants must in the past 20 years have paid 121 compulsory contributions and completed at least 180 months of reckonable work.

Early retirement is further sweetened by the concession that they may earn as much as they wish for two months a year and in the rest of the year up to DM245 per month.

The actual use made of these provisions deviates alarmingly from the original intentions. Increasingly companies are persuading older workers who are capable of and willing to work to retire early.

Usually these workers have complete security of tenure and they demand high sums in compensation to renounce this right. There are even company redundancy schemes into which these arrangements are expressly written.

In these agreements, contracts are ended by mutual agreement and employees undertake to register as unemployed with the local labour exchanges even though they are not genuinely seeking work.

The company also undertakes to make up the difference between unemployment benefit and the workers' normal pay for one year — until he becomes eligible for early retirement.

Trade unions complain that com[...]nies are using the scheme to reju[...] their work force. Firms counter th[...] economic situation makes such [...] necessary or that they are using [...] scheme to guarantee the jobs of y[...] workers.

The most recent labour market fig[...] show a significant increase in the [...]ber of over-59-year-olds seeking [...]ployment. The number in June [...] 80,000, 27 per cent higher than in [...] of last year.

According to a study by the Inst[...] of Labour Market and Professional [...] search 76 per cent of men and 19 [...] cent of women aged between 60 and [...] were working in 1973. In 1978 the cor[...]responding figures were down to 43 p[...] cent for men and twelve per cent [...] women.

The institute attributes the reduction [...] to the introduction of the flexible [...]tirement scheme in 1973 and the e[...] retirement scheme after one year [...] work.

These findings were confirmed b[...] National Clerical Workers' Institute [...]dy of people born in 1914. It found [...] 7.7 per cent of men were drawing e[...] pensions because of unemploym[...] And only 22 per cent started dra[...] their pension at the age of 65.

This method of solving employm[...] problems at the expense of national [...]surance contributors does not s[...] with the intentions of those [...] devised the scheme, but it is perfe[...] legal.

There have been numerous sugge[...] solutions to this problem. They incl[...] increasing the period of unemploym[...] preceding entitlement to early pe[...] from one to two years, asking emplo[...] to help pay unemployment benefit [...] these workers, and offsetting the l[...] sum payments against unemploym[...] benefit.

It will be extremely difficult to fi[...] socially acceptable solution and to [...]tinguish dismissals for economic rea[...] from rejuvenation of the work force.

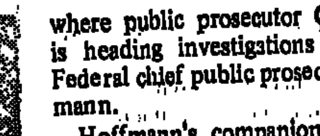
One aspect has not been suffic[...] considered in the present discu[...] given the development of the p[...] structure thought should be given [...] vising the age of entitlement to pe[...] quite independently of the unem[...]ment insurance scheme.

Klaus Hempe[...]

(Rheinische Post, 8 Jul[...])

STATE SECURITY

Authorities keep open dossier on banned right-wing group



[...]al Heinz Hoffmann of the *Wehr[...]sportgruppe Hoffmann*, a neo-Nazi [...]military group that used to operate [...] a castle midway between Nu[...]berg and Bayreuth, is still under sur[...]ance.

[...]at is more, a remark by Bavarian [...]or Minister Gerold Tandler [...]es that the authorities are well [...] that Hoffmann has spent time in [...] and Damascus.

[...]en Herr Tandler submitted his an[...] report on unconstitutional activities [...]varia he was asked in a more or [...] routine manner about the *Wehr[...]gruppe Hoffmann*.

[...] was a question that had been levelled [...] predecessors in the Munich Interior [...]istry, Bruno Merk and Alfred Seidl.

[...]e replied, as he had done last year, [...] the group had been banned as such [...] the Bonn Interior Minister on 30 Ja[...]ry 1980, the Bavarian authorities [...]ing provided information leading to [...] ban.

[...]here were no indications that the [...]hrsportgruppe was still in existence [...]n organisation or in any way still [...]e.

This reply had such a routine ring to [...]hat a further comment escaped atten[...] at the time; it would be less likely [...] do so now.

The police were still investigating [...]embers of the banned group, he said. [...] knew that Hoffmann was in Leba[...] as he made this comment and that [...]d spent some time in Damascus.

[...]r Tandler hinted that Hoffmann's [...]sive life style at Schloss Ermreuth [...] not the only reason why the right[...] commercial artist drove used vans to [...] Middle East to sell them.

[...]e also hinted that Hoffmann had [...] in touch with certain Palestinian [...]s, but again little attention was [...] at the time to this remark.

[...]et on 20 May it was revealed that a [...] of sunglasses belonging to Hoff[...]an's companion, Franziska B., had [...]n found in the Erlangen house where [...]ish publisher Shlomo Levin was [...]dered on 19 December 1980.

[...]rrested on suspicion of membership [...] terrorist association, she has admit[...] that the sunglasses were hers but [...] she lost them somewhere.

[...]ootprints at the Erlangen house, [...]ch belonged to Frida Pöschke, [...]n's companion (she too was mur[...]d), are said to be identical with [...]e of Franziska B.

[...]his claim has not been confirmed by [...] Nuremberg public prosecutor's [...]e, but there has been no denial eith[...]

[...]Chief public prosecutor Ludwig [...]ndl denies, however, that a gun was [...]d in Hoffmann's possession in May [...] could well have been the one used [...] murder Levin and Pöschke.

[...]ntil Herr Tandler gave his press [...]ference the Bavarian Office for the [...]tection of the Constitution was reluc[...] to admit that it knew what Hoff[...]nn was up to and where he was.

[...]he aim was to avoid giving anyone [...] tip-off. But this cloak-and-dagger [...]veillance does not appear to have led [...] Hoffmann being arrested on board a [...]ddle East-bound plane at Frankfurt [...]port.

[...] is understood that the security auth[...]ities were unable last year to unearth sufficiently hard evidence that Hoffmann was preparing for bomb raids to warrant arresting him on suspicion.

He was not arrested until other right-wingers said he had been to Lebanon and/or Syria on a para-military training course. They had been there with him.

Realising that they were liable to punishment in Germany, they are said to have gone to a German embassy and there disclosed what they knew.

There are little more than rumours about the facts. Various stories are in circulation about the men who spilled the beans. As for their motives, only speculation is possible.

Did they want to call it a day out of fear? Or were they banking on lenient sentences on the strength of having come clean?

The Federal chief public prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe says definite information should be available shortly.

We will then have a clearer picture of what led to Hoffmann being arrested and what he has been up to since the beginning of last year.

All that is currently known for sure is that he is being held in Nuremberg, where public prosecutor Gerulf Schmitt is heading investigations on behalf of Federal chief public prosecutor Kurt Rebmann.

Hoffmann's companion, Franziska B., the owner of Schloss Ermreuth, near Forchheim, is being held at Neudeck prison, Munich, in investigative custody.

Arms and explosives have been found at the castle (details are not known) and forest areas where the *Wehrsportgruppe Hoffmann* used to hold exercises are still being combed.

No information is available from the Interior Ministries in either Bonn or Munich, the Federal chief public prosecutor's office having decided to keep the facts under wraps.

The situation is much the same as on 27 September last year when Hoffmann and five of his supporters were detained after the bomb outrage at the Munich *Oktoberfest*.

They were later released because there was no real evidence to suggest they had anything directly to do with the blast, but the Bavarian authorities were instructed to observe strict silence on the whole affair.

The *Wehrsportgruppe Hoffmann* was for years the subject of political controversy in Bavaria. The Munich authorities were accused of making its activities out to be harmless. There were repeated calls for the group to be banned.

In summer 1977, when Alfred Seidl was Interior Minister in Munich, the Bavarian authorities went on record that there was no proof the group's activities were in preparation for armed insurgency against democracy and the rule of law.

Yet from its early days there was little doubt as to the objectives of the group, which by the time it was banned had grown in size to about 400 members in several *Länder*.

Take the evidence submitted at criminal proceedings against Hoffmann (and he was involved in any number of court cases). A 1976 Nuremberg ruling held that the *Wehrsportgruppe* had unconstitutional objectives.

A leading article in the group's magazine quoted young members as asking: "Boss, how long will it be before we take over power?"

Yet when it came to calls for a ban on the group the *Land* governments in both Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg repeatedly said responsibility lay with the Federal government.

They argued that the group was active in more than one *Land*, so it was up to Bonn to take any action that might be considered necessary.

Bonn eventually accepted responsibility and on 16 January 1980 Gerhard Baum, the Federal Interior Minister, signed the ban. It was imposed in the early hours of the morning a fortnight later.

When the authorities moved in to close down the group's headquarters a number of military vehicles and equipment were confiscated.

Roman Arens

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 27 June 1981)

Why the female of the (terror) species is so dangerous

Werner Jubelius of Münster University, writing in *Kriminalistik* magazine, has come up with the most convincing explanation so far why so many urban guerrilla terrorists are women.

Many police officers rate Germany's dacoit queens particularly fanatical, particularly violent and particularly dangerous.

From the start women have not only played a leading role in the terrorist scene; they have also, throughout, seemed to make up a majority of the hard core.

For over a decade about 60 per cent of the membership of terrorist groups were women. Ten of the 14 terrorist suspects on the current wanted lists are women. A woman, Brigitte Mohnhaupt, 32, is said to be current leader of the urban guerrilla movement.

This preponderance of the fair sex is a far cry from criminal records as a whole, in which women account for a mere 17 per cent of suspects and 15 per cent of those sentenced.

There has been no lack of attempts by criminologists to explain the phenomenon over the years. Women's role in German terrorism has been attributed to biological, psychic, social, ideological and feminist factors.

Yet none of these explanations has been truly convincing; they all failed to explain why so few women were involved in conventional criminal activities.

Women terrorists themselves have not been much help. Beate Sturm, a physics student who quit at an early stage, had this to say:

"What really impressed me at the time was that women were truly emancipated. There were things they were simply better at than men. We simply felt stronger."

Yet Michael "Bommi" Baumann in his book *Wie alles anfing* (How It All Began), disagreed: "The group really was a dreadful men's sect; they were oppressers of women if ever there were any."

Former terrorist Götz Tilgener claimed that even leading women members of the Red Army Fraction were subjected to this oppression.

The social backgrounds of 40 terrorist suspects on the wanted list at the end of 1977 were compiled, but failed to shed much light on the reason why so many terrorists were women.

Seventy per cent of the sample came from middle- or upper-class homes, usually from large city families. For the most part they were not brought up by their real parents.

But why were so many of them women? Their social backgrounds stubbornly refused to account for the fact.

Werner Jubelius of Münster University in his article for *Kriminalistik* magazine bases his analysis not on sexual differences but on the terrorists' political views.

Many embarked on their terrorist careers from starting points that were largely identical not sexually but in terms of social background.

These social similarities were then further equated by similar processes of political learning and experience. They felt powerless and frustrated in bids to bring about swift change by non-violent means.

They came to feel socially isolated and were eventually able only to communicate with each other; they were no longer capable of discussing their political views with outsiders.

As a result both men and women misjudged the political situation and went underground and in for terrorism.

Jubelius shows that these causes leading to terrorism were largely identical for men and women, most of whom hailed from the upper reaches of society.

They were taught, largely regardless of sex, to be open-minded in their views and to take part in social and political affairs.

They were also equally far from the working class, as sons and daughters of the well-to-do.

Given their origins, their wrongly processed experiences and political misjudgements of social circumstances there was no significant difference between the sexes.

That was why there was no difference in numbers between men and women terrorists, unlike conventional crime, in which the social background of women largely differs from that of men.

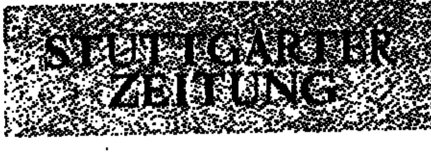
Why, then, are there more women than men on the terrorist wanted list at present? The answer Jubelius ventures to suggest is that women are harder to get. They are masters of deception and disguise.

Jürgen Dieblicker

(Rheinische Post, 9 July 1981)

■ THE ECONOMY

Putting 'the crisis' in perspective



Almost every day, West Germans are called upon to tighten their belts to help master the economic crisis.

But is it a real economic crisis?

Certainly, we are not living in an economic paradise. Inflation is eroding more of wage-earners' pay than the increase in the wage rounds can compensate for.

For the first time since the war, West German wage-earners have had to accept a reduction in their real income.

Politicians say that it is a sacrifice to compensate for the huge increases in energy prices which have raised the inflationary tide.

Should we look instead at the unemployment rate, which has risen to 4.8 per cent in the past two months?

The number of people out of work in May was higher than at any time since 1954. However, we should not be too shocked by these figures. The number of people employed rose in 1980 as more young men were integrated into the working process.

In 1981 many new jobs will have to be provided for school leavers of the baby boom years. But soon this supply will tail off and employers will be keenly competing for workers.

Home production is rising — *unlike* in other European countries. The cause is an unexpected upswing in exports, due largely to the depreciation of the deutschemark which the Bundesbank tried for too long to prevent.

Exports could, as they always have been since the war, be the locomotive of an economic upswing on a broad front. The first half of 1981 was generally agreed to be poor but nonetheless there was an increase in gross national product of at least half a percentage point.

Despite all the talk of crisis, industry is still investing heavily and boosting productivity. This means that in companies and in the economy as a whole two to three per cent more productivity has been achieved by the same work force.

This effect is necessary even if in the short term it doesn't lower unemployment. It ensures that we remain internationally competitive.

Fortunately, Germany does not have an economic crisis comparable with that in Great Britain and many other countries. The fact that the state is having to spend more with its revenue reduced by the fairly gentle slump is not in itself enough to justify talk of a real crisis.

National and local politicians from the Bonn Minister of Finance to the local council treasurer are, however, keen to foster this melodramatic view because the state is going through a crisis for which politicians must bear the responsibility.

No one can claim that the economy is faring worse than was forecast in 1980. It is not the state of the economy that has brought the state's budgets into this sorry state.

Deficits and false structures are the consequence of hand-out policies and the baleful tendency to take the path of least resistance.

In the days of plenty, politicians failed to distinguish between investments which improved performance and those which entailed further expenditure.

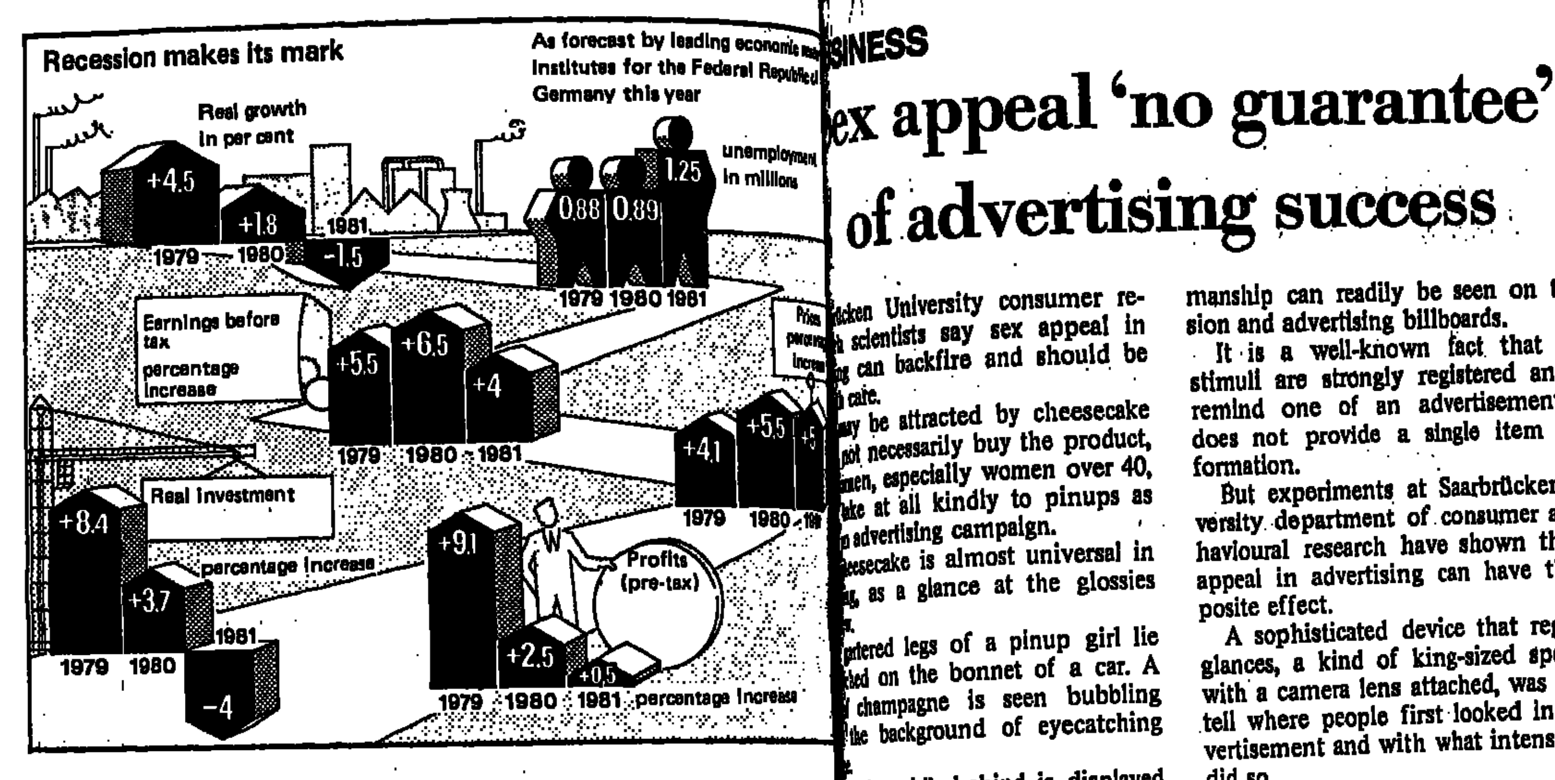
A road, for example, can considerably increase a region's efficiency and thus rapidly recoup costs. On the other hand a swimming pool, desirable though it may be in many respects, involves high initial expenditure and, when built, high maintenance and employment costs.

Here, excessive expectations and false decisions by the authorities who were not subject to the competitive mechanisms of the market have led to abuses.

The need to fill the gaps in the state's budget is no reason to keep telling the citizen day in and day out that he is living beyond his means and has caused an economic crisis.

Our economy is healther than expected — it is our politics and financial behaviour that are ailing. *Dieter Ferber*

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 6 July 1981)



Five Wise Men produce a mid-term report

The Council of Economic Experts have for the first time in three years produced a special report in the middle of the year.

This indicates that the Five Wise Men are concerned about the state of the economy.

At first sight, this seems surprising. The economy is not in a worse state than expected. It is, if anything, doing slightly better.

The council confirmed the economic data on which the Bonn government based its predictions for 1981 in January: a slight drop in gross national product, unemployment to reach 1.2 million, a high balance of payments deficit.

Gloomy, but hardly surprising.

Why then this special report which indicates dramatic developments? The answer is simple: the experts are worried that the German economy is failing on all fronts to respond to the challenges with the necessary thoroughness.

Most of them are worried that the Bonn government, the *Länder* and the local authorities will not take the consolidation of their budgets as seri[ously] as they ought to in the coming m[onths].

They argue that quite apart from difficulties the economic slump caused in the public spending s[...] there is a structural deficit in the p[ublic] spending budget.

State expenditure exceeds norm[al re]venue (including normal state inde[bted]ness) alarmingly.

This indebtedness will have t[o be] gradually reduced if the state is to [...] the necessary scope for new econom[ic] initiatives.

The council also severely critici[ses] both sides of industry. Their view t[hat] pay settlements this year failed to t[ake] account of the changed economic s[itua]tion is certainly correct. These se[ttle]ments did not improve the competit[ive]ness of German industry.

The most surprising item in the [re]port is the criticism of the Bundesb[ank] not for failing to foster growth by [...] interest policies, but for relaxing t[...] tough policies in recent months.

It says the Bundesbank ought, if [ne]cessary, to have increased its inte[rest] rates to prevent the deutschemark [...] value against the dollar.

It is clear that this criticism cannot [go] unanswered. First, because the pr[...] rate of interest has hit several indus[tries] very hard; and second, because [...] appreciable decline the deutschemark [...] helped exports.

On the other hand the experts' [...] ment that high devaluation feeds i[...] tion cannot be dismissed.

There is a danger that the Ge[rman] economy may lose the trump card [...] has been its main strength over the [...] two decades: inner stability.

Of course there is no patent re[medy] for getting out of the economic di[fficul]ties at the moment.

The experts' say that stability an[d] confidence; that we should improv[e] competitiveness by rationalisation; [...] that a slow rise in costs makes a [...] sense. It has proved correct in the p[ast].

Which is more than can be sa[id of] those theories which say that infl[ation is] a necessary evil. *Thomas Löffe[...]*

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 7 Ju[ly 1981])

The OECD forecasts an improvement in the German economy next year.

Improvement on the way, says OECD

Improved balance of payments will mean that in 1981 the German gross national product will only drop by 1.5 per cent and could even increase by 2 per cent in 1982.

The reduction in gross national product will undoubtedly lead to a 1 per cent drop in employment this year. As the output upswing in 1982 will go hand in hand with an improvement in productivity, the OECD reckons that there will be a drop in employment next year, but at a slower rate.

In other words there will be an increase in unemployment in West Germany until the end of next year. The OECD reckons that unemployment will reach 5.75 per cent in 1982 as against 5 per cent at the end of 1981.

The Paris-based organisation said that if the exchange rate of the deutschemark stayed at its present level import prices would increase faster than in 1980.

This would mean an annual inflation rate of about 5.5 per cent.

With productivity increasing and the rise in import prices bottoming out, OECD predicts a slowdown in the rate of price increases and for the second half of 1982 this would mean, according to its predictions, a price rise of only 3.5 per cent.

The OECD experts say there has been a considerable improvement in West Germany's balance of payments. It said that salaries and wages would rise by about 4 per cent this year.

Assuming that in 1982 wage settlements would be broadly similar to 1981 and that the rate of unemployment would gradually slow down, they say that average wages could increase by slightly more than 4 per cent with the overall level of remuneration at slightly less than 4 per cent.

As for investments, the OECD expects a reduction in 1982, but not as big a reduction as after the first oil price shock.

It sees overall company profits as healther than in 1974/75. They will improve still further by the end of 1982, especially in export-intensive industries.

The West German economy remains fundamentally strong. The accumulation of private capital and investment in West Germany has been far stronger in the past five or six years than in most other OECD states.

Structural adaptation to the new energy situation has been rapid.

As interest rates in the USA will probably remain high, the OECD advises West Germany to defend the rate of the deutschemark and to improve its balance of payments.

(Handelsblatt, 7 July 1981)

[BU]SINESS

[S]ex appeal 'no guarantee' of advertising success

[Saarbrü]cken University consumer re[searc]h scientists say sex appeal in [advertisin]g can backfire and should be [used wit]h care.

[Men ma]y be attracted by cheesecake [but wil]l not necessarily buy the product, [and wo]men, especially women over 40, [do not t]ake at all kindly to pinups as [part of a]n advertising campaign.

[Ch]eesecake is almost universal in [advertisin]g, as a glance at the glossies [will show].

[...]gered legs of a pinup girl lie [draped] on the bonnet of a car. A [glass of] champagne is seen bubbling [in] the background of eyecatching [...].

[A ...]pping girl's behind is displayed [...] as the day she was born to ad[vertise] a new brand of toilet paper.

[...] instance of sex appeal salesmanship can readily be seen on television and advertising billboards.

It is a well-known fact that erotic stimuli are strongly registered and can remind one of an advertisement that does not provide a single item of information.

But experiments at Saarbrücken University department of consumer and behavioural research have shown that sex appeal in advertising can have the opposite effect.

A sophisticated device that registered glances, a kind of king-sized spectacles with a camera lens attached, was used to tell where people first looked in an advertisement and with what intensity they did so.

Did they look first at the legs of the photographer's girlie model or did they look at the name of the brand of cigarettes the legs were presumably intended to help sell?

The answer to this one will come as no surprise. An advert featuring a naked girl on a bed proved 40-per-cent more eyecatching than a photo of a no less attractive woman, but dressed and sitting at a table.

Subsequent research revealed, however, that men are much more strongly attracted by sex appeal in advertising than women are.

On a scale with a top rating of seven the cheesecake girl scored five-and-a-half points among the men but only three points among the women questioned.

The men said the girlie ad was more informative, clearer and more credible than the ad with the girl who was fully dressed.

The pinup was felt by the men to be more credible and more competent; the product was felt to be more expensive and better quality.

Women's answers were almost the opposite. Up to 60 per cent felt advertising that made use of (female) sex appeal was objectionable or at least in bad taste.

The older the women questioned, the more widespread this feeling was. So sex appeal must be used with care in selling products aimed at women over 40.

And even with men, to whom sex appeals more strongly, a successful advertising campaign does not necessarily mean higher sales.

At times, the Saarbrücken researchers found, men concentrated exclusively on the erotic motif and paid no attention whatever to the product.

The name of the product is only borne in mind better (up to 50 per cent better) when there is a meaningful connection between the sex appeal and the message to be put across.

This was felt to be the case with a girlie advertisement for car tyres that billed the tyres as "the legs of your car."

"Handling sex in advertising calls for sociological expertise," the Saarbrücken pundits said. "A wide range of considerations need bearing in mind if sex appeal advertising is to be successful."

The target group, the product, the dosage and the kind of sexual stimulus used all number among the factors to be taken into account.

Or so the Saarbrücken consumer research scientists say, and theirs is the largest research facility of its kind in Europe. *Udo Lorenz*

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 27 June 1981)



She doesn't appeal to everybody. (Photo: Duscholux)

[S]haring cars, saving fuel

[...]over is to launch next year a [sc]heme to coordinate car pooling, [a s]cheme through which motorists [sh]are transport.

[...] an experimental project an in[formati]on centre and car pool agency is [being] set up by the local authorities to [help] commuters to save energy.

[Its] *first task* will be to brief the pub[lic abou]t the services. It intends to pro[vide] [...]l leaflets will contain a coupon [to be fi]lled in and returned by those in[terested] in car pooling.

[They] will be asked to detail the route [whic]h they drive to and from work [and th]e times at which they do so and [retur]n the coupon to the pool HQ.

[There] the information will be sorted [and fe]d to a computer that will, it is [hoped, c]ome up with the names and ad[dresse]s of others with whom they could [share] a car to and from work.

Continued on page 12

Videotext information service extends its programme

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

There are well over 100,000 videotext subscribers in the Federal Republic of Germany, each with an adapter to their colour TV set.

The videotext service is available on Channels 1 and 2 and some of the regional third programmes and has been in operation since June 1980.

It is provided from 16 hours to the end of normal transmissions, and the head office for both major channels is in West Berlin.

Channel 1 (ARD) and Channel 2 (ZDF) are to run special stands at this year's Berlin radio show from 4 to 13 September.

The range of videotext services has been steadily extended and improved, including much more than radio and TV programme hints, weather forecasts and road traffic reports.

There are news summaries from five leading daily newspapers, up-to-the-minute news headlines and subtitles to programmes actually broadcast on TV in the normal way.

Videotext subtitles are now supplied for all major soccer matches screened on either channel, which is a great help for the country's half a million hard of hearing.

On 11 September the third countrywide meeting of videotext producers will be held in Berlin, with a platform debate on the success so far of the scheme as launched by Deutsche Bundespost.

The postal authorities will be unveiling the new international standard on which Europe recently agreed; it is to be introduced in Germany in 1983.

The new standard provides in particular for better graphic design opportunities. Individual communication facilities will also be provided, enabling subscribers to communicate with each other.

Since June last year videotext trials have been held in Berlin and in the Düsseldorf-Neuss region. Videotext can be hooked up with TV sets, telephones and suitably equipped computers.

Up to 3,000 subscribers in each region can dial for up to 100,000 pages of extra textual information covering all walks of life.

Up to 1,000 calls a day are made to the regional operation headquarters in Düsseldorf and Berlin.

Information is supplied by more than 500 producers, including retailers, banks, newspapers, travel agents, encyclopaedia publishers and institutions such as the Consumer Research Foundation and the Bundestag. (dpa)

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 1 July 1981)

A giveaway on the buyer's face

[Pade]rborn University research scien[tist]s have used closed-circuit TV [camera]s to show that impulse shoppers [have d]istinctive facial expressions.

[Most] of us are impulse shoppers at one [time o]r another, coming home with [purcha]ses we had no original intention [of buy]ing, and between 35 and 50 per [cent] of purchases are said to be un[premed]itated.

Professor Peter Weinberg and [Wolfga]ng Gottwald of Paderborn claim [to hav]e proved that an observer can tell [almost] certainly whether an item is [bought] deliberately or on impulse.

[Facia]l expressions give the lie to what [we] think and feel, so an experiment [was] set up to identify spur-of-the-[mome]nt shoppers.

[Stic]kers were sold in the university [buildi]ngs and people who looked at [them] were filmed by concealed camera.

[Afte]r buying (or not) they were ap[proac]hed by interviewers with questions. They were then told that they [had be]en filmed at the stand.

[The] choice was then theirs. Would [they al]low the footage to be used for [scientif]ic purposes and answer a few questions? If not, the film would not be used.

Nearly all agreed to allow the footage to be used. It thus pinpointed 47 buyers and 154 non-buyers.

The research team then selected 15 buyer and non-buyer sequences and edited them into a film that was shown to others.

These others had no idea who had actually bought a sticker and who had not, but closer scrutiny of the footage showed that buyers and non-buyers differed markedly in their gestures.

There was no mistaking the facial expressions of people who were making up their minds to buy on the spur of the moment; they showed signs of excitement.

The buyers questioned fully confirmed the conclusions reached. In their interviews they readily admitted to having bought on impulse when this was felt to have been the case.

So facial expression really does show whether a purchase is made deliberately or merely on the spur of the moment; it will even show in advance whether one will be made at all.

The buyers interviewed said they imagined they would probably have looked more amused, pleased or delighted than non-buyers.

They also felt they would have been more interested, thrilled and elated (and less surprised and indifferent) than non-buyers.

Comparison of their assessment of how they must have looked and how others had rated their expressions showed that impulse buyers did not always assess their feelings in the same way as onlookers.

This, the Paderborn researchers feel, is probably because kinetics, or body language, and the spoken word express sensations differently.

The impulse buyer can, for instance, look pleased and say afterwards that he had felt pleased, but to others he may look amused or delighted.

Renate I. Mreschar

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 4 July 1981)

■ THE ENVIRONMENT

A clue in the dust: another Ice Age may be blowing with the wind

Kiel University marine geologists have found Sahara dust retrieved from the bed of the Atlantic to indicate we may be in for another Ice Age.

Today's winds are much the same as they were 20,000 years ago, at the time of the last Ice Age, and a far cry from 8,000 years ago when the earth's climate was particularly temperate.

The telltale dust, scooped from the bed of the Atlantic by the research vessel Meteor, gave the lie to wind directions over several million years.

By and large the prevailing winds have been north-south during ice ages and east-west during warmer periods.

Two entirely different wind systems carry dust from the Sahara to the eastern Atlantic, the east-west harmattan and the north-south trade winds.

The former carries dust from the southern Sahara and the Sahel zone where the surface of the earth consists largely of ferrous soil containing red grains of quartz and kaolin, which is related to mica.

The dust carried by the trade winds consists of colourless quartz grains and other kinds of mica, such as illite and chlorite. It comes from the western coastal zone of Africa.

By means of these differences marine geologists led by Professor Michael Sarnthein have succeeded in identifying the prevailing winds at any given time.

The size of grains found on the seabed is an important pointer to wind force and speed.

Frankfurter Rundschau

According to the findings of the Kiel research project, which is backed financially by the Scientific Research Association, the two winds have blown for more than 20 million years, since the middle of the tertiary period at least.

They have varied in intensity, however. The harmattan has prevailed mainly in the warmer periods, including most of the tertiary and in between the Ice Ages, which are currently felt to have begun about four or five million years ago in the northern hemisphere.

In colder periods the trade winds have prevailed.

The size of grains of desert dust on the bed of the Atlantic reveals, for instance, that the trade winds at the height of the last Ice Age, about 20,000 years ago, blew at speeds of 20 metres per second or so.

The harmattan, on the other hand, reached speeds of only five to 12 metres per second.

About 8,000 years ago, when the last Ice Age came to an end and the warmer period was at its peak, the speed of the trade winds was a third slower, whereas that of the harmattan was nearly half as much again.

The climate belt of the tropics and subtropics with their typical winds is thus not only very old; it also seems not to have undergone much change in the Ice Ages.

The development of Ice Ace wind patterns in the northern hemisphere as a result of the extension of polar ice caps thus took place without pushing the entire atmospheric mantle further south.

The oldest signs of a prevalently meridional wind circulation, or north-south trade winds, are well over 20 million years old and thus much older than any known traces of the first Ice Age in the northern hemisphere.

They are presumably a sign that the atmosphere was first adjusting to a colder period that did not lead until much later to Ice Age conditions.

This onset of Ice Age wind patterns occurred several times in the temperate climate of the tertiary period and in the colder periods of the Ice Age proper.

The most striking point, however, is that air circulation in this sector indicates more powerful trade winds and a less powerful harmattan again.

The distribution of desert dust on the seabed off the coast of North Africa is along lines similar to about 20,000 years ago when Scandinavian glaciers extended as far as Berlin and Alpine glaciers nearly as far as Munich.

This markedly meridional air circulation has been observed by meteorologists over Europe, as Bonn University geographer Dieter Klaus told the Alfred Wegener Symposium in West Berlin.

Since 1940 air movements over Europe have tended to become more meridional, or longitudinal, in direction, leading to changes in weather patterns, he said.

The intermediate zone for weather fronts has moved from the Mediterranean to Central Europe and northern Germany, thereby increasing the number of troughs north of the Alps.

It would be overdramatising the situation to infer that a fresh Ice Age was just around the corner (apart from the undeniable fact that the earth is currently going through a colder spell).

We know from geological reconstructions of ages past that such colder periods can descend very fast.

Long-term assumptions based on radiation changes

But there are scientific grounds for assuming that a fresh Ice Age is unlikely for several thousand years. These long-term assumptions are based, for instance, on changes in solar radiation.

Besides, the meteorological history of the Ice Age in the general sense of the term has been full of climate changes that have by no means always led to extremely cold spells.

All that can be said with any certainty is that wind patterns over Europe and North Africa have grown longitudinal and will probably remain predominantly so for some time to come.

This phenomenon was characteristic of the Ice Ages.

Harald Steinert

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 29 June 1981)

■ INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

Solving the problem of the flour bombs

A programme of tests to find out what causes explosions in mills and how they can be prevented is being carried out in Westeraccum, East Frisia.

Dust explodes so regularly in silos and mills that it is considered an everyday occurrence.

One blast a day is the average in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Explosions of dangerous dust, with grains of less than about 0.4mm in diameter (the danger level), have grown increasingly serious.

Mills are growing larger. So, in particular, are silos. The speeds at which dust is conveyed grow ever faster.

This speed lead to sparks as soon as metal parts strike one another. The ignition energy for flour is not known exactly (it is probably just above 10 millijoules).

What can be said with certainty, however, is that this energy can invariably be generated in defective equipment.

Modern, large mills face really serious danger; tremendous explosions have been reported recently. Over the past decade 36 people have died in dust explosions in German mills.

The most recent explosion was the most serious. In 1979 the silo at Rolandmühle, Bremen, exploded, killing 14 people and causing DM65m in damage to property.

Flour and grain dust have long been known to be volatile, but research on the subject has been far from comprehensive. All that is known is that they cause non-ideal explosions, as scientists call them.

The ideal explosion starts from very small, point-shaped sources with a high energy density; their pressure waves expand in a calculable fashion.

Non-ideal dust explosions start from low-energy ignition sources and do not spread until an ignitable dust-and-air mixture has been brought about by the pressure wave blowing dust up and mixing it with air.

A dust explosion of this kind does not gather momentum at any great speed. Explosions in mills and silos can last for several seconds or even minutes.

Any strategy to prevent mill explosions must be based on these explosive properties, and large-scale trials are under way at a mill in Westeraccum, East Frisia.

The trials are being undertaken by the North German Technical Supervision Association (TÜV), with head offices in Hamburg.

The TÜV is best known for its two-year roadworthiness tests of motor vehicles but also carries out safety tests on industrial equipment and household devices.

An experimental flour conveyer system is under construction at a cost of DM7m alongside the mill.

Flour is carried by elevators and conveyer belts between two silos, and ignition possibilities and risks are tested by artificially-induced explosions.

These explosions are then probed and the latest preventive, safety and combat measures tried out to see how they work in practice.

The installation will be able to work at a capacity of up to 50 tonnes an hour.

In principle far-reaching preventive measures to stop explosions have already been developed, especially in the chemical industry.

But mills have not made much use of them. They are usually small or family firms and need prompting to introduce new technology. Besides, new technology is not usually tailor-made for them.

Millers say, for instance, that non-explosive gases such as nitrogen or carbon dioxide cannot be used in flour storage or conveyance because flour contains enzymes that rely on oxygen intake.

Other moves, such as preventing the spread of what are often small primary explosions, are making only slow headway.

A pressure detector is incorporated in dangerous sectors of the mill or silo. When pressure increases an extinguisher prevents further spread of the explosion.

Primary protection from explosions, in other words, the prevention of mixtures that might tend to explode, is a virtual non-starter in the milling business.

Flour is naturally an explosive medium. In manufacture and conveyance it invariably escapes somewhere or other to form an explosive mixture with the air.

It is virtually impossible to rule out sources of ignition too.

So prevention measures will need to concentrate on means of preventing or limiting the resulting damage.

TÜV research engineers feel one option would be to build pressure- or shock-resistant silos and conveyer installations, but this calls for substantial reinforcement and higher investment costs.

Reinforced concrete sections are normally built only to withstand pressure of up to 0.3 bars. Were they to be shock-resistant they would have to withstand up to 3 bars. That would call for walls so thick as to be virtually out of the question.

Steel silos might be less expensive but millers say they too are out of the question because of the risk of silo walls sweating.

Similar difficulties arise in connection with pressure- or shock-resistant manufacture of other parts. So many other experiments are due to be tried out at Westeraccum.

They include easing pressure by incorporating outlets through which pressure waves can be released before they have time to do damage.

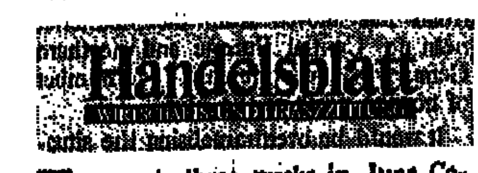
The concrete tops of conventional silos could also be designed to incorporate pressure relief docks.

Harald Steinert

(Die Welt, 27 June 1981)

THE THEATRE

A dramatic success, but with reservations



For nearly three weeks in June Cologne hosted a world drama festival, *Theater der Welt 81*, on which DM3m in subsidies was lavished.

It was the cathedral city's second major arts venture this year, the *Westkunst*, or Western art, exhibition having cost a record DM7m.

It was certainly popular with the public. Nearly 200,000 people are reported to have seen the opening spectacular. The festival was given extensive and favourable media coverage too.

As a result Frankfurt has agreed to host the next world drama festival in two years.

The prevailing sentiment in Cologne was euphoric, whereas scepticism would have arguably been more appropriate.

Festival organiser Ivan Nagel, former general manager of Hamburg's Deutsches Schauspielhaus, presented the city with a continuation of his 1979 *Theater der Nationen* festival in Hamburg.

In publicity terms it was a resounding success, but in terms of theatrical policy it laid down guidelines about which one could well have misgivings.

Last year, when there was no way of telling whether cash would ever materialise for the Cologne festival, Nagel, with the backing of a number of leading West German theatre managers, made a bid to take over the Berlin drama festival.

He planned to scrap the jury system of selecting the year's most noteworthy productions on the German-language stage, a procedure that could be both verified and criticised.

In its stead the Nagel group planned to launch a drama festival run by theatre people themselves. Rational verifiability was not deemed desirable.

When this plan fell through, Nagel plunged into the Cologne world drama project, and given the poor state of public finances, his success in raising the cash must be a feather in his cap.

Cologne agreed to contribute DM1m towards the project. So did North Rhine-Westphalia and the Federal government.

But as early as the opening spectacular a few drops of bitters were poured into the foaming tankard of Rhenish jollity.

Nagel while still in Hamburg had hired the services of French animation specialist Jérôme Savary, paving his way into the subsidised German arts world.

In Cologne he arranged for Savary to stage a spectacular that went much further than the usual fun of the fair, with its circus artists.

Entitled *The Secret of the 11,000 Virgins*, it dealt with the life and martyr's death of St Ursula, the patron saint of Cologne.



A scene from Savary's 'The Secret of the 11,000 Virgins'. (Photo: [illegible])

It was an open-air spectacle in which 700 lay actors made their way round the city, but it amounted, all told, to little more than tomfoolery and the banal.

But in Cologne, where beery fun and games have long passed muster as cultural animation, the show proved highly popular even though it was produced more with TV in mind than local residents.

Pretensions to artistic standards are no longer in demand, certainly not with a view to highlighting social conditions by aesthetic means.

In this respect Ivan Nagel has made a further contribution towards the Radio Luxembourgisation of the West German cultural landscape.

The final production of the Cologne festival, which was to have been another discovery for the German stage, likewise proved a disappointment.

In autumn 1976 Nagel had staged at Hamburg Schauspielhaus *Einstein on the Beach*, a musical by Phil Glass and Robert Wilson, thereby enabling the US minimal aesthetics to make its breakthrough in the German theatre.

At the beginning of 1979 Wilson went on to produce his *Death, Destruction (kfm. Und) Detroit* at the Schaubühne am Halleschen Ufer in West Berlin.

Starting this coming season Glass will have no fewer than three plays of his put on at the Württemberg Staatsoper in Stuttgart.

In Cologne we saw Wilson's one-man show *The Man in the Raincoat* (with little or no music), a dreadfully irrelevant waste product of his earlier work.

His slow-motion action and nonsense sentences blasted at the audience via loudspeakers in a manner reminiscent of Peter Handke's plays amount to no more than an undemanding children's theatre.

The only fascination it has is its lighting effects, by Markus Bonzli.

The message of the play is put across in the final scene, in which Wilson kneels on the ground, having first rid himself of a handkerchief and a necklace that played a certain part in the English version of the text.

As a noose slowly descends on him from above, he takes off his glasses, stands up and walks past the danger with the self-assurance of a sleepwalker.

His glasses remain on the floor, a tiresome product of civilisation superfluous to a guru heading straight for unalienated truth.

Messages of this and similar kinds [illegible] amount to an expulsion of [illegible] claims from the stage were encoun[illegible] more frequently at the Cologne fe[illegible] than ought to be tolerated.

The lack of prerequisites with [illegible] ritual and ethnologically evolved [illegible] of motion therapy from Asia, Afri[illegible] Turkey were offered to the public [illegible] somehow frightening.

Nagel expected his festival specifi[illegible] to provide pointers towards system[illegible] changes on the West German stage.

But if the stage is to take over [illegible] tendencies it ought, to be fair, to m[illegible] theatremakers to show awareness of [illegible] social and economic structures on w[illegible] these other forms of drama are based.

Ivan Nagel's concept of world d[illegible] is like the Pied Piper of Hamelin, [illegible] ting one to have one's cake and eat it [illegible] the same time.

None of the younger theatremakers [illegible] likely to be prepared to switch his [illegible] way of life back to such pre-m[illegible] forms of existence.

Not a parallel for private life

They may be in the process of [illegible] forming the erstwhile moral institu[illegible] of the stage into an entertainment [illegible] dium, but this is not the sort of [illegible] they would be prepared to do in [illegible] private lives.

Yet on stage they set great store [illegible] dispensing with rationality and soci[illegible] demand for accomplishment. Do p[illegible] subsidies make such hypocrisy any [illegible] more tolerable?

Nagel's decision to forgo rational [illegible] teria of assessment thus led to [illegible] self-fulfilment in bombast and kitsch [illegible] provided by the Citizens' Theatre, [illegible] gow, and the Théâtre Gérard Phi[illegible] Saint Denis.

The alternative was premature [illegible] ment of meaning in pantomime [illegible] tics, as provided by the Radeis [illegible] Brussels, and the Théâtre du Camp[illegible] Paris.

And that is not even to go into [illegible] nor even to mention performances [illegible] were truly irrelevant or immaterial.

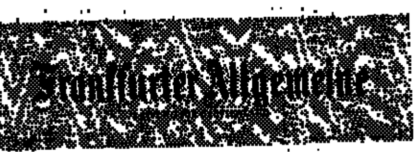
If the world drama festival is [illegible] come part of West German [illegible] policy, much stricter criteria of [illegible] must be employed.

The Cologne festival merely [illegible] to the widespread self-concern [illegible] tremakers and clearly underscored [illegible]

Continued on page 11

PHILOSOPHY

The question: are we resting on our Kant or on our Hegel?



[illegible] sults, in the generally accepted sense of the word, are not what is [illegible] ected of a philosophical congress, yet [illegible] year's Hegel congress in Stuttgart [illegible] an exception.

[illegible] y the time the congress came to an [illegible] an answer had been given to the [illegible] tion posed in the overall topic se[illegible] ed for discussion, which was: Kant [illegible] Hegel?

[illegible] ttempts were, it is true, undertaken to [illegible] k the tricky issue by stressing what the [illegible] had in common or by heading in [illegible] ar, circuitous directions.

They were made primarily by the [illegible] xist envoys, by representatives of the [illegible] tical Theory and by supporters of the [illegible] -Heidegger school.

But at the end of three days of debate [illegible] was clear that the re-elected president [illegible] the International Hegel Association, Dieter Henrich of Heidelberg, had not [illegible] en exaggerating in his initial address.

He had referred to a fundamental difference in theory between Kant and Hegel on which all modern philosophical controversies could be said to be based.

The alternative, in other words the [illegible] eed to choose between Kant and Hegel, thus seemed both valid and exhaustive.

The necessary conclusion, a resurgence of the classical European tradition of thought, seemed tangibly near in Stuttgart. Europe was seen in its role as *Roman*-occupied Greece, which avenged [illegible] e loss of its political independence by [illegible] lonising intellectually the military [illegible] nquerors.

The congress, held in Hegel's home [illegible] own, was attended by leading US [illegible] peech analysts Willard Quine, Donald Davidson and Hilary Putnam.

They all seemed to be relativists and [illegible] eptics differing from each merely in [illegible] egree. Their links with either Hegel or Kant were barely apparent.

It was evident nonetheless that Davidson was closer to Hegel's holistic viewpoint than Quine, his mentor, and that Putnam, even when he expressly dispensed with an Archimedean viewpoint beyond mere coincidental cognition was [illegible] eading in a direction first taken by Kant in his philosophy of the transcendental.

Kant and Hegel likewise overshadow[illegible] the debate whether a transcendental explanation of society was possible.

Sociologists at the congress sought [illegible] utiously to reply in the affirmative [illegible] ith reference to Husserl's phenomeno[illegible] gy of the living world or to Kant's *Critique of Judgement*.

In the principle of general communi[illegible] ability and of general assent they felt [illegible] ey had discovered a final certainty as [illegible] what society was or ought to be.

Philosophers at the congress may have [illegible] lt that this approach held forth little prospect of success; they may even have [illegible] enied outright the very possibility of a transcendental explanation of society.

Yet both sides seemed tacitly to agree [illegible] hat this impossibility was a shortcom[illegible] g of sociology rather than a failure of the Kantian system.

This reference to classical traditions [illegible] as nothing new for the Marxists, who [illegible] ave always felt they were the heirs to [illegible] istory.

It nonetheless was not without effect [illegible] on them at Stuttgart, albeit within the strict confines of their rigid dialectics, by the terms of which their materialist apostles stand firmly on the shoulders of their speculative and idealist prophets.

Tyodor Oizerman, of Moscow, laid claim as usual to the entire German classical tradition of philosophy as the source of Marxism (which, however, sought to create anew from this source).

After a passing reference to the errors imputed to Kant, in comparison with whom Hegel (not to mention Marx) was naturally just as much in the right, the critique seemed to turn full circle.

It came round to take a more favourable view of Kant and a less favourable one of Hegel, who war particularly criticised for his totalitarian claims.

What Karl-Heinz Schöneburg, East Berlin, had to say about Kant's teachings on the law of nature and his fellow-countryman Steffen Dietzsch said about the proximity of transcendental and dialectical thought seemed to point in the same direction.

Kant rather than Hegel is evidently the philosopher whose work derives greater benefit from philosophical traditionalism. This bore out the tenet advanced in writting at Stuttgart that after every reference to Hegel the Kantian concept of method recurs in one form or another.

In an age that suffers from uncertainty, takes good care of its sense of crisis and is on the lookout for a foundation capable of carrying its load it seemed only natural to refer to a philosophy Henrich termed fundamentalistic and others as dualistic.

It is bound to outstrip the Hegelian philosophy of identity which resolves and mediates between all contradictions, makes each and every development a necessary one, equates reason and reality and acknowledges no difference between being and responsibilities.

Unlike Hegel, Kant was certainly no believer in always being too late with his philosophy of educating the world, and that is what earns him the appreciation and support of those who, as Baden-Württemberg Education Minister Helmut Engler put it at the beginning of the congress, expect philosophy to help people to get their bearings.

Contrary to such high-flying expectations of reducing the claims of philosophy to the provision of specific advice and everyday use, the tendency towards concentration on classical European philosophy made headway in another direction.

It tended to promote approximation and cultivation of contradictory viewpoints, and this seemed the case in two respects at Stuttgart.

On the one hand there was the positivist non-philosophy widespread in the English-speaking world, a tendency the most extreme proponents of which, Carnap and Reichenbach, were not even mentioned in Stuttgart.

On the other there were the Marxists, on whose behalf Oskar Negt as a less dogmatic proponent went so far as to express in public the hope that Kant might "sober up" Leninist orthodoxy.

On many points, Negt said, Kant came closer to Marx than Hegel did: Kant, whose abrupt and unconciliatory morality he sought to recommend to his Marxist colleagues.

He was unlikely to meet with much success in propounding such heresies for the time being, certainly not to judge by the way in which the next speaker, Hans Jörg Sandkühler, an orthodox Marxist from Bremen, defended the way in which theoretical opponents are silenced under socialist regimes.

He felt he had the complete answer to complaints about the expulsion of a number of GDR philosophers from the Party in that the expellees had retained their jobs and were still allowed to publish their work.

Those who aim to follow Kant must, or so it seemed, either intensify or moderate their claim, depending on the initial situation; they must certainly clearly recognise them and carefully fulfill them.

Kant drew a borderline in philosophy that one may exceed or not but which continues to be a yardstick by which one is judged, in philosphical terms.

This was borne out to no small extent in Stuttgart by the sociologist philosophers (or philosophising sociologists) of the Critical Theory. They proposed further development of transcendental beginnings in the empirical disciplines.

They also suggested basing sociology on a priori principles of a secondary kind or quite generally arriving at a transcendental philosophical consensus theory of truth.

Conceptually this seemed either vague or contradictory, all that was clear being the intention of using further the procedure thought up by Kant and of either salvaging or utilising it in the service of new ends.

It is surely no coincidence that such bids are being made by sociologists and representatives of the human sciences; in view of their dubious methods and trivial findings they are badly in need of philosophical underpinning.

Borrowing from Kantian terminology Karl-Otto Apel referred to the a priori of the social or the a priori of communication.

Jürgen Habermas called on philosophy to undertake a non-exclusive division of labour with the modern cultural sciences, which had now come into their own and were no longer mere handmaidens of philosophy.

Instead of philosophy as the final arbiter, a role firmly allotted to it by Kant himself and defended by Robert Spaemann at Stuttgart, Habermas wanted philosophy to be a mediator and interpreter in a wide range of words and deeds.

He shared with Apel the desire to replace thought and reason as the final arbiters by communication and consensus. This was a well-known view promptly followed by the usual objections.

They were that the communication theory confused general validity with universal validity, attached undue importance to occurences or coincidences, preferred form to content and in the final analysis provided an explanation without foundation.

The foundation as here meant is not, according to impressively rehabilitated classical philosophy, the social or society but the individual.

Both Kant and Hegel say that the individual has all the prerequisites for assuring himself of the validity of his individual judgement and of doing so satisfactorily from any critical viewpoint.

"When one realises what form any such viewpoint might take," Henrich said, "it is hard to say how it could be other than by either deduction or dialectics.

"It must surely have to be either by the demonstration of a legitimate link with an infallible certainty or by that of its position and value within an irresoluble and insurmountable whole of conceivable ideas."

In other words, it must be either in accordance with the Kantian or the Hegelian method, both having developed forms of philosophical explanation that in equal manner, each in their own way, demonstrate universal validity, regularity and necessity.

There are few indications that these two systems may be joined by others, let alone superseded.

Viewed in this light, the renaissance of classical philosophy at the Stuttgart congress can hardly have come as a surprise.

The ongoing dialogue on final issues, Spaemann's definition of philosophy, forms an established part of the European tradition of thought, of which Kant and Hegel are but part, albeit a most important part.

John Findlay from Boston noted that Kant and Hegel had not destroyed conventional metaphysics, merely changed and added to it.

The International Hegel Association's ongoing dialogue is to be resumed in Stuttgart in six years' time.

The topic to be dealt with will be metaphysics, followed (altogether in accordance with tradition) by an initial question mark.

Konrad Adam

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 30 June 1981)

Continued from page 10

departure from any kind of overall social and topical political context.

Yet Iva Nagel himself has shown how to counteract this trend, by selecting groups in whose work such connections are reflected.

Take, for instance, the Pina Bausch retrospective in which the Wuppertal choregrapher showed not only her latest, arguably trivial work but also work that comes to terms with existing works of art.

They include Stravinsdy's Sacré dú Printemps and Bartok's Bluebeard.

The Amsterdam Werktheater also deserves a mention for *Waldeslust*, a play about the disabled in today's world, as does the New York Squat Theatre.

The productions stages by these companies contained moments of relevant drama, such as the transformation of the speaker into a bearer of history (Pina Bausch's links with earlier works of art).

The Dutch company pilloried contradictions in society in a remarkably aesthetic and uncommonly easygoing manner.

The New York group used subtle differences in aesthetic means to sound out reality. Only with such pretensions to being an art form can the stage take on any meaning for life.

Ulrich Schreiber

(Handelsblatt, 3 June 1981)

■ PERSPECTIVE

Doctors look back at how their profession helped Nazi liquidation programme

Hitler's liquidation programme and the role of doctors in the process was discussed at a conference at Hanover University.

Under the programme, hundreds of thousands of sick and handicapped people were forcible sterilised, killed in medical experiments and exterminated in gas chambers.

Relatives were told that the victim had died *suddenly*. It was not uncommon for appendicitis to be given as the cause, whether or not the appendix had already been removed.

But this soon became known and resistance developed. One outspoken opponent was Cardinal Galen, of Münster. In 1941 Hitler ordered that the programme be halted.

Delegates to the conference, on "Psychiatry and German Fascism," held at the university's school of medicine, heard several answers to the question of how doctors became involved in the programme.

Two facile explanations were dismissed right at the start: that only a few black sheep in the medical profession took part and that these who did acted under compulsion.

The experts agreed that there had been signs of anti-human currents in medical science well before 1933. The "Prevention of Genetically Diseased Offspring" Act of 1933 could never have come into force in July 1933 if it had not been prepared for years previously.

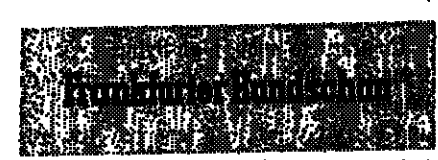
Some psychiatrists at the time were clearly delighted that the state overrode legal objections to forcing doctors to report handicapped patients to the authorities and that it forced people to be sterilised.

In 1939 a decree from Hitler was published making it possible for the incurably sick to be granted the possibility of euthanasia.

This decree had been preceded by discussions in which some leading doctors called for even more drastic measures.

Some of these doctors and professors were able to continue their medical and teaching practice after the war.

Cologne professor of genetics Benno Müller-Hill said that any claim by genetic science to fully understand how intelligence and other mental faculties were inherited was humbug.



But in those days this humbug was the dominant orthodoxy, proclaimed by renowned scientists such as Professor Karl Schneider of Heidelberg, who was generally considered to be an idealistic doctor.

In the Third Reich, Schneider and others like him were given ample opportunity to look for proof of the allegedly incontrovertible genetic facts. Schneider, for example, treated patients and then had them killed so that he could compare clinical and pathological diagnoses.

Hamburg professor Julius Hallervorden ordered 500 human brains for his laboratory and he got them.

Robert Ritter, who claimed to be an expert on the genes of gipsies, even argued that "pure gipsies" were less dangerous for the future of the German race than those people who had a gipsy as a grandparent or great-grandparent.

This man, whose apparently expert diagnosis led many colleagues and nurses to sterilise "one-eighth" gipsies to prevent the birth of "one-sixteenth" gipsies, got off scot free after the war.

Josef Mengele, who received a doctorate of anthoropoly from Munich and of medicine from Frankfurt University, conducted brutal experiments on twins at Auschwitz on his own initiative, not on orders from anywhere in the Nazi hierarchy.

Heinrich Himmler merely gave his approval to Mengele's application. The project was backed by the German Research Association.

Müller-Hill said that doctors had never been as highly respected as they were in the Nazi state.

Charles Darwin's teaching that nature destroyed the weak and favoured the strong was perverted into a mission to murder the weak. The decision on who was to die was always the doctors'. They directed the extermination programme.

There were occasional complaints that non-doctors were interfering in medical decisions — at which Hitler assured doctors that the responsibility lay solely with them. They were the officers of a movement that pursued the illusion of total health.

Hanover psychiatrist Hans Stoffels said that these doctors regarded their mission as that of abolishing all suffering, so that only the general good remained.

The victims of sterilisation and murder were the means towards this insane utopia. The will to cure walked over mountains of dead.

The social scientists at the conference analysed the motives behind this wish to produce a pure, healthy, strong and happy master race by selection: the need to feel strong after losing the First World War, the educated and wealthy middle class's fear of the rising lower classes, the call for the use of terror to stabilise crumbling power structures.

Also there was the wish to break out of the frontiers of the German state imposed at the Versailles conference and to establish a great empire. Only a master race could claim the right to impose its will on others.

But did the medical mass murderers have no sense that what they were doing was wrong? Did the hushing of the euthanasia programme only serve the elitist interests of the "priests of the cult of extermination" as Müller-Hill described them?

State institutions called themselves, for example, Charitable Foundations for Institutional Care.

These and similar grotesque and grimly ironic euphemisms prove that they regarded mass murder not just as unpopular but as immoral.

The directors of Schloss Hartheim extermination camp in Linz — where inmates from Mauthausen no longer capable of working were brought to be murdered — told staff that the murder of the handicapped was a great achievement of civilisation and even held occasional flute concerts to boost their morale.

Yet at the same time those involved in the killings were given extra rations of alcohol — which was obviously necessary to help them overcome their repugnance.

This repugnance often led to resistance, which took different forms in various institutions. The predominantly young audience at the Hanover conference was particularly interested in ... aspect.

Doctors, nurses and orderlies all ... ed a part in resistance. There is evid... that the murder apparatus did not ... tion quite as smoothly as was wished.

After 1945, Professor Werner He... director of the euthansia program... was given a good job in Schleswig-Hol... stein — under a false name, admit... but with the connivance of many hi... places.

The Federal Supreme Court acqui... a doctor who had selected more ... 6,000 patients for death.

What preoccupied conference d... gates more than anger at the failu... German justice to punish the crim... was how far such inhuman me... continue to be practised in psychi...

Many scruples were expressed ... general discussion. Professor Klaus ... ner of Gütersloh Psychiatric Ho... said that psychiatrists were still daily ... quired to make selections.

What scientific criteria did they ... when making decisions to limit the per... sonal freedom of patients.

How close is the psychiatrist's ... tional relation with the state institu... responsible for law and order?

What are the main priorities in ... policy and in the psychiatrist's mind ... help mentally ill and suffering people ... to keep them under control, pre... them causing a disturbance?

Of course it is convenient for soci... to shove psychiatric patients into ... 1000-bed hospitals — so to speak i... final storage. And it is also convenient ... tranquillise them by pumping the... constantly with drugs, regardless of t... side-effects.

However, it would be more hum... — and this point of view was arg... most forcibly by psychiatric hosp... staff — to allow patients to live in ... normal environment.

Professor Wolfgang Jansen of ... said: "We have got to stop using terms ... such as 'endogenic,' 'resistance to ther... apy' and 'incapacity to learn' when talk... ing about patients. These terms only ju... tify social exclusion and violence."

The Association of Special Scho... Teachers in Brunswick declared th... every human being was capable of lea... ing. Jansen described this a revolution... ary break with the past. At one tim... special school teachers thought it th... duty to march their pupils off to ... sterilised.

Concern at the conference for the ... of the sick at the conference went ha... in hand with concern for the not-... sick, concern about the humanity of a ... ciety which institutionalises its "proble... people" and is only to glad to pay ... price.

This discussion is bound to lead ... the conclusion that the humanisation ... society is not just as matter of scient... information.

Many obstacles have to be overco... before such insights are followed by p... litical action. Realistic reform propo... for locally-based forms of treatm... have long existed and have proved s... cessful in experimental schemes su... that in Hanover.

But the reforms are not bein... duced because the money is not ...

It only remains to point out ... Bonn government could not ... to supporting this conference ... Year of the Disabled ... long overdue 36 years after the ... Nazi barbarism.

Delegates said they would like ... the conference held again ... in a psychiatric hospital. *Eckart ...*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 Jun...)

Continued from page 7

The computer will also print out for each participant details of suitable public transport services.

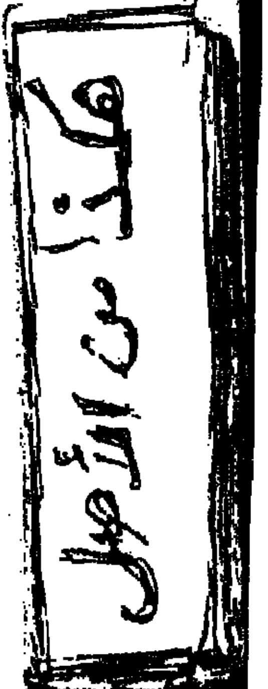
Commuters will thus be able to see for themselves whether it is worth their while to carry on driving alone to work or they might do better to pool with others or to use public transport.

Bonn Transport Minister Volker Hauff hopes this Hanover scheme will improve use of existing local transport capacity. In commuter traffic the average car contains 1.1 people, so there is clearly room for improvement.

If only people were to set aside their misgivings about car pools, he feels, any amount of energy could be saved. Traffic noise and exhaust fumes could be cut and the number of people killed and injured on the roads substantially reduced.

Hans-J. Malinke

(Die Welt, 3 July 1981)



■ **OUR WORLD**

Helping hand for those with plenty of time

An organisation in the Saar is attempting to help women whose children have grown up and left home to fill in their time.

The project began because of the number of women finding it difficult to occupy themselves.

In many cases, crises developed.The idea is that their energies instincts should be channelled into various forms of unpaid social work.

The project is financed by the Saar Protestant Academy and the Bonn Ministry of Youth, Family and Health. And it is being monitored and assessed by the Saarbrücken Institute of Social Research and Social Economics.

The project organisers concentrated on three areas of Saarbrücken which are typical of the demographic structure of West Germany as a whole.

The Burbach district of Saarbrücken is dominated by the steelworks and related industries. The population is working class and pollution is high. Social problems are serious — caused largely by the crisis in the steel industry.

In the Ottstrasse area, the so-called steelworks ghetto, there is a relatively high degree of social stability. The social structure is traditional: wives look after the home and the children and the husbands, usually shift-workers, earn the bread.

The proportion of women working is accordingly below the national average.

"My husband would never allow me to clear away other people's dirt," said one Burbach woman. Relations between neighbours are good and maintained over generations. Burbach people find contact with outsiders difficult. The fate of the steelworks is the main subject of conversation.

The situation on the recently-built Eschberg estate in Saarbrücken is different. Here, relations between the people on the estate have yet to be established.

The educational level of these estate-dwellers is significantly higher than in Burbach, where 92 per cent have the elementary school leaving certificate. 57 per cent of Eschberg people live in high-rise flats and fewer than a third in houses.

It is generally agreed that opportunities for people in Eschberg to get to know one another are poor; 42 per cent said that they had no contact with any others living there; 41 per cent had friends but many of these friendships had existed before they moved.

Fifty five per cent said that their only contact with their neighbours was saying "hallo."

Only 45 per cent of housewives said that they were happy on the estate — and these were women who drove into town regularly.

Cases of depression and isolation among adults there are on the increase.

Eschberg at one time had the highest suicide and attempted suicide rates in the entire Saarbrücken district.

Social and contact possibilities on this estate were the poorest out of 18 comparable estates in West Germany. Many women broke out of their isolation through the Protestant church organisation, to which they went because they themselves needed help. Many of these women took part in adult education classes.

The situation in Dillingen was similar. Here, too, women were far more isolated than men. They wanted to develop, learn and establish contacts. Dillingen, a small industrial town, consists of older working class areas and newer estates.

The main aim of the project is not only to involve women in the project groups but to encourage them to do some form of social work and train them to do so.

The housewives are given the opportunity to work as group leaders in the Protestant Academy.

Women in Dillingen are establishing a pupils' group, training as group leaders and now want to work in old people's homes.

In Eschberg the main emphasis is on use of leisure time, aid with homework, work on school committees and in old people's homes. These women — once in need of help themselves — have organised a visiting scheme for old people and found a new field of activity in old people's homes.

Now that women are no longer so dependent on their families, thei[r ap]proach to some educational problem[s is] less emotionally laden. They no lo[nger] concentrate so strongly on their so[ns], that they can do everything better.

In fact these projects helped many the women to discover their own i[nter]ests.

Housewives previously dependent [on] their husbands and families are [now] able to build up a domain of their o[wn], to wean themselves from the family [and] to take on social responsibilities.

Suddenly these women have st[arted] insisting on their rights and are no l[on]ger automatically available for their [hus]bands and children.

Clearly, this has affected their rela[tions] with their own families. They tend not to worry so much, to fuss ov[er] them. They are more confident.

The snag behind the whole operat[ion] is that it might tempt local politici[ans] with tight budgets to leave certain ki[nds] of social work to these women vol[un]teers. Why do women always have to b[e] social heroes? *Gero Gemballa*

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 27 June 19[81])

In the best of form

Muskel-Mädchen line up for the judges in Essen in the German women's body-buil[ding] championship. This activity for women has its roots in, of course, America. (Photo: Sven Si[mon])

Prostitute loses bed

A Bonn prostitute has been forced to surrender her bed to pay rent arrears after a court had ruled against her.

The case, involving a woman known as Brunhilde G., involved a point of law over what is and what is not required for exercising one's profession, if that phrase can be used.

The item in dispute was a magnificent double bed on which Brunhilde earned DM 9,000 a month.

The bailiff was called in in a dispute about rent arrears and claimed Brunhilde's bed. Brunhilde went to Holland with the bed.

When she returned German border officials arrested her. She was on her way to visit her husband, in jail in Cologne.

The case went to court. The cardinal point was: "Was the bailiff entitled to confiscate the bed?" Paragraph 881 of the Rules of Civil Procedure states the items a bailiff is not allowed to confiscate.

These items include what is required for the exercise of the individual's profession. Brunhilde argued that her bed was an indispensable professional requirement.

Judge Frank Liegat eschewed the tricky question of whether this paragraph also applied to objects used in the accumulation of immoral earnings.

He did, however, discover that Brunhilde had a second bed of her own. He said that the sumptuous double bed could be regarded as coming under para. 811 but that it was not absolutely indispensable for this purpose.

She could equally well use her private bed. This meant that the confiscation was perfectly legal and Brunhilde would have to pay the penalty for disregarding the seal. *Horst Zimmermann*

(Bremer Nachrichten, 1 July 1981)

Congress gets to grips with career-family conflict

The problem of how to combine careers with raising families was the major topic at the 8th International Women's Congress in Krefeld.

The congress was organised by the German Housewives Association.

More than 700 delegates from 13 countries attended, including the Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary, Brazil, Israel and the United States.

Interest was focussed on a study of how women cope with careers and bringing up families. This is being done by Prof. Dr. Hettinger of Mülheim on the Ruhr. It is not yet complete, will clearly influence legislation on this subject.

Anneliese Schminke, President of the Housewives Association, was speaking from personal experience when she said that "our daughters want to have the chance to pursue their careers and to raise children."

The working world is still not adequately geared to cope with this requirement. The number of men prepared to do their share of the work at home is still to low.

Men who work at home, even if it is only for half a day, are still the exception. And no one really believes that they are the most emancipated and balanced of men.

One of the aims of the conference was to increase general awareness of the need for more flexible working hours. The following points, which apply in some foreign countries, were discussed:

- A six-hour working day for parents with children under the age of eight — with a corresponding reduction in income (as happens in Sweden);
- Time off or days off in a normal full working week with loss of income for time missed. This scheme is bei[ng] tried in France.
- A reduction of working time th[at] can be applied for at certain times [of] the year. Loss of income ranging from [...] to 20 per cent.
- Job-sharing, in which two peo[ple] share the same job (USA, and on a s[mall] small scale, in West Germany).
- Annual working time contracts, [in] which the number of hours to wor[k] in the entire year is fixed.
- Sabbaticals — i.e. time off on [...] pay — as in Australia and the Uni[ted] States.

The leadership and the rank and f[ile] of the 383 districts of the Housew[ives] Association realise that their strength [as] a lobby is limited. They see their role [as] that of a voice crying in the wildern[ess], hoping that at some time time it will [be] heard.

One tactic in this strategy will be [to] popularise the concept of family time.

Frau Schminke: "When men a[nd] women, fathers and mothers realise th[at] spending time with the family is an im[portant] part of life we will have m[ade] an important step forward." *Ria Theel[...]*

(Rheinische Post, 3 July 19[81])

[SPO]RT

Fun and food come first for Cornelia Hanisch, world foil titleholder

[...] after beating China's Jujie [Ju] 8-4 in the final of the [...] foil event at the world fencing [champion]ships in Clermond-Ferrand, Cornelia Hanisch from Offen[bach was] in a pensive mood.

"[Sh]e had self-confidence," she [said of the] Chinese girl. "She really took [...] A tough customer, very tough [...] a fencer, that is."

[Mi]ss Hanisch, 29, a games mis[tress and] history teacher, won clearly [...] always tried to stick to my [...]s." She responded aggressive[ly ...] basically defensive stance.

[She w]as able to do so because she [...] opponent's style of play, [...] fought the 23-year-old Nanking [...] Shanghai last October.

[Whene]ver the referee interrupted the [...] in Shanghai, she recalls, she [...] herself to memorise Miss Ju's [...] she felt sure she would be meeting [...].

[An]d she remembered of their previ[ous en]counter certainly paid dividends [in Cler]mont-Ferrand.

[When] Hanisch won the world crown [...] years ago in Melbourne, Australia, she recalls behaving strangely for [...] afterwards:

"[I] packed a big scrubbing brush in [my ...] bag, for instance, and took it with [me] to the gym. When I got there I [wond]ered what on earth I had intended [...] with it".

[This] time round it was all different. [...] hours after the 20 bouts she [had ...] to defend her world title she felt [...] as a fiddle. "Mentally? Oh, sure," [she ...].

[Her] team-mates would agree with [...]. She chatted with Ingrid Lohsert [of] Freiburg until three in the morn[ing ab]out unrest among young people, [enviro]nmental conservation and theories [of one] kind and another "until we [ended] up with the theory of relativity."

[She] is very happy with the current [Germ]an women's team. "They are all [girls] you can chat with until the small [hours] and not just about fencing."

[In] Clermont-Ferrand they all enjoyed [going] out for a meal too. Cornelia Ha[nisch] is 1.65 metres (5ft 3in) tall and [weighs] 55 kg (121 lb) and has an endur[ing pas]sion for eating good food.

"[In] Alexandria," she says, recalling a [trip th]at took her to Egypt, "we ate ex[ceeding]ly well."

[An]d after defending her world title in [...] she was going to take a holiday [...] her way from one end of Italy to [the o]ther.

[Her] fencing had been extremely well-[disci]plined, said trainer Horst-Christian [...], 45, but she did not equate disci[pline] with asceticism at any price.

[No]t until the finals were over did she [...]ed in getting to bed early at Cler[mont]-Ferrand. "It's a throwback to my [schoo]l days," she explained.

[Bes]ides, back home in Hesse many of [her f]riends are students who, like her, [are la]te-nighters. "At times I manage [...] with four or five hours' sleep."

[She] is 29 and feels she would prob[ably] not enjoy her fencing any longer if [her p]rivate life were too restricted: "I'm [...] and life is fun. So is fencing. In that

She did not train this time as hard as she did before the Montreal Olympics. She used to have to practise each and every tactical move until it was perfect; nowadays it all came automatically.

"I have developed behaviour patterns that I can resort to whenever I need to do so," she says.

This certainly proved the case in her final against a Chinese girl with whom the others were totally unable to come to terms.

Not that this implied criticism of the competition. Fencing, she said, was so complicated, so extremely fast that at times fencers themselves were not altogether clear what went on:

"At times we ourselves are not sure what move the other girl has just made."

Mental alertness alone was not enough. A fencer had to have an instinct for action and reaction: instinct and tactics, as in her title defence.

Fencing, food and conversation were all very well, but how had she felt about the boycott of the Moscow Olympics? Miss Hanisch was well known to have been very much against the boycott at the time.

"When I heard that Pascale Trinquet of France had won the Olympic gold medal I really had to let off steam. Beforehand she had only two attributes, poor fencing style and a haughty attitude."

She is still upset. "The world championship title is great, but it's no substitute for an Olympic medal." *Klaus Blume*

(Die Welt, 7 July 1981)



Cornelia Hanisch ... no ascetic existence. (Photo: Sven Simon)

High-jumper Nagel below best at European meeting



Three of a kind...from left Mögenburg, Nagel and Thränhardt. (Photo: Sven Simon)

Gerd Nagel, 24, came third in the high jump at the European Cup intermediate event in Warsaw.

His best leap of 2.22m was 2cm short of the winning jump (2.24m) by Poland's Trzepizur

And it was nowhere near his 2.31m at Eberstadt earlier this year, the world's best so far this season.

As Nagel competed in Poland, former world record holder Dietmar Mögenburg was jumping 2.26m in an international meeting between West Germany B and France B in Böblingen.

Nagel was preferred both to Mögenburg and Carlo Thränhardt for the Warsaw event.

Mögenburg and Thränhardt are coached by national chief coach Dragan Tancic, 44. Nagel is coached by Frankfurt sports instructor Günter Eisinger.

Mögenburg consoles himself (and probably only himself) over his omission from the Warsaw event with the idea that he will be back in peak form in time for the late-August European Cup finals in Zagreb and for the early-September World Cup finals in Rome.

Failing action it just has to be words, mainly of the high-flying variety. It has to be business as usual, and Dutch jumper Ruud Wielart explains why. Wielart's name counts for something with organisers of international meetings, but if he continues to jump as badly as at present the money will go from bad to worse. That, he says, is why he just has to have an operation on his bad knee — to make sure of earning good money at the major international athletics meetings in August.

High-jumping is all he has ever learnt in life, his Haarlem, Holland, apartment costs 900 guilders a month and driving a sports car is expensive too.

These are the problems Mögenburg and Thränhardt also face.

Last year, an Olympic year, Mögenburg left school to make the high jump his livelihood for a while.

He tried school again in Bad Soden-Allendorf, but without success. "Dietmar preferred to jump," says coach Eisinger.

As a school-leaver without a school-leaving certificate and without further job qualifications he may not have wanted particularly to jump for a living but he has no choice if he is to maintain his present standard of living.

Like his coach, Dragan Tancic (who is on record as saying: "I can see myself ending my days travelling on business by second-class rail"), he drives a Porsche sports car.

Carlo Thränhardt drives a Porsche too, but plans to lower his sights a little: "A Volkswagen Rabbit will do just as well."

Thränhardt is well advised to think small. He really isn't doing too well at the moment. He would like to work as a journalist but failed his maths test in a bid to pass his higher school certificate as a mature student.

Nothing seems to be going right for him these days. Small wonder Dietmar Mögenburg says he is going through a sticky patch.

Mögenburg talks big to compensate for his own poor showing at present. In London a report said the 2.15m he cleared at a meeting there was no height for a jumper who had once cleared 2.35m.

His answer, as a 19-year-old, was: "There have been plenty of ups in my life."

Maybe there were too many. Over 18 months he cleared heights of 2.30m and more on seven occasions.

But his bad foot, the result of a fatigue fracture that went unnoticed years ago, took severe punishment.

If that were all there was to it, he might well be back on top before long, but there are other problems too.

The people are always the same, so are their pointless comments, he says. There are times when he is sick and tired of the high jump.

Occasionally he and Thränhardt go out for a meal together with their girlfriends on the eve of a meeting, but they invariably request the organiser to book them in separate hotels.

They will be seeing each other the next day anyway and you can have too much of a good thing!

Nothing but high-jumping gets on your nerves after a while, says Nagel's coach, Eisinger. That is why Gerd is studying law, "and really studying," he adds.

His studies come first, not his jumping, says Nagel, who drives a Volkswagen. Despite the twofold strain his jumping technique is so superb that even Chinese coaches have ordered training films in which he has gone through his paces.

All he himself has to say on the entire subject is: "You can have no idea how sick and tired I have grown of the Mögenburg myth." *Klaus Blume*

(Die Welt, 30 June 1981)